

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXX.]

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BIRTHS.

On July 15th, at H. B. M. Consulate, Chinanfu, the wife of B. GILES, of a son.
On July 18th, at Weihaiwei, to Mr. and Mrs. A. B. VON STOCKHAUSEN, a son.
On July 26th, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR VILEIGH, a son.
On July 26th, at the Chartered Bank House, Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE MILLER, a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On July 24th, at Shanghai, THOMAS DANIEL, second son of C. C. GRAM, formerly of the Customs Service, Shanghai, to BACHARA PRIMROSE, eldest daughter of GEO. PEARSON of the China Merchant S. N. Co.

DEATH.

On July 24th, at Daitoi, North Formosa, ARTHUR FREDERICK GARDINER, aged 44 years only surviving son of Colonel Thomas George Gardiner, late 3rd Foot (The Buffs), Twickenham, Middlesex.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD (C).
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ARRIVAL OF MAIL.

The English Mail of the 9th ultimo and the parcel mails closed in London for despatch by the all sea route on the 30th June and for despatch overland on the 7th July arrived per s.s. *Caledonia* on the 4th inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

Mr. W. H. Martin, manager of the Raub Australian Gold Mine, has resigned and is going home. The new manager is expected this week.

A costly scheme to provide Bangkok with a water supply has received the Royal sanction. It is expected that the works will be completed by November 1912.

The steamer *Kalomo*, on which a serious fire occurred at Singapore just before Christmas, necessitating the submersion of the ship, has been refloated and docked.

At a recent meeting of the Kulangsu (Amoy) Municipal Council, the agreement of the secretary and Capt. Supt. of Police was renewed for a further period of three years, from the 1st June, 1909, at a salary of \$350 per month.

Sir John Lyster Kaye, the Tung-kuan-shan mine concessionaire, the *Peking Daily News* says, agrees to give up the concession upon a payment, by the gentry, of £100,000 as compensation. £50,000 has been offered, which Sir John has refused to accept.

A telegram has been received in Shanghai from Mr. R. C. W. Pullen announcing his resignation of the post of cathedral organist. Shanghai, the *N.-C. Daily News* says, loses a valuable choir-master and musician by Mr. Pullen's decision to remain in England.

Among recently elected members of the Royal Society of Arts are Taotai Jeme Tien Yow, Ph. B. (Yale, U.S.A.), Assoc. M. Inst. C. E., Imperial Peking Kalgan Railway, Peking, and Mr. Herbert Edward Pollard, Public Works Department, Shanghai Municipal Council, Shanghai.

The steamer *Tjipanas*, of the Dutch Java-China-Japan line, has met with misfortune. She struck on a reef near Muntok, a port in the island of Banka, the other day, and sprang a leak. Much water entered into the tank and into hold No. 1. The water was kept down by continual pumping until the vessel arrived at Batavia on July 22.

Bishop Carlssare of Hankow has died of apoplexy. It appears that he was journeying from Chebiachowang to Pailanfu when he was suddenly seized with a heat-stroke on the road, to which he succumbed a few hours later. The Rev. Vincenzo Epifanio Carlssare, member of the Franciscan Order, Bishop of Madaura, and Apostolical Vicar of Eastern Hupeh, was born at Montebellio Maggiore (Vicenza) on June 25th, 1844. He received Holy Orders in December, 1866, and arrived in China in April, 1871. He was consecrated Bishop in September, 1884.

Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Mrs. Bourne and Miss Bourne left Shanghai for Home by the R. M. S. *Empress of India*. A very large number of friends were present on the jetty to bid them farewell, and many good wishes follow them for a pleasant holiday. Mr. Bourne has been Acting Judge of H. M. Supreme Court for China and Korea since May, 1908, and he has been very hard-worked especially during the past six months. His home leave for one year fell due at the beginning of the month. Mr. Lindsey Smith, who with Mrs. Lindsey Smith have just arrived at Shanghai, will be Acting Judge of H. M. Supreme Court for the present.

The annual report of the Russo-Chinese Bank states that business during last year was still unfavourably affected by the crisis in the Far East, which occurred as the result of the war. While the closing of the free port in Vladivostok led to a commercial crisis in the Far East. The gross profits of the bank amounted to 3,761,000 roubles (£1,850,000), as compared with 4,154,000 roubles (£2,050,000) in the preceding year, while the net profits amounted to 1,616,000 roubles (£800,000). The dividend is 7½ roubles per gold share, and 6 roubles copecks per silver share, which takes 697,200 roubles (£348,600). The Chinese Government receive 266,000 roubles (£133,000) in payment of interest at 4 per cent.

Perhaps the next mining excitement in the Philippines, says a Manila contemporary, will be an oil boom. Up to the present time considerable exploring has been carried on in a quiet way, and some wells have been drilled to shallow depths with encouraging results. Very little information concerning the oil finds has thus far reached the public, but there is no reason for holding it back, since there is room for everybody in the field. Dr. George I. Adams, geologist of the Division of Mines, has just returned from a reconnaissance in the Tayabas Peninsula and has brought back samples of the oil which were collected with special care for the purpose of analysis in the laboratory of the Bureau of Science.

The following extract from a letter in a Shanghai paper in reference to the Navy League should possess an interest for the Committee of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League:—"The present is pre-eminently the occasion when Britain requires the support of every association formed for the furtherance of the interests of her Navy. Let the Committee of the Shanghai Branch of the League infuse some energy into the work it is constituted to perform. Let it beat up members to give lectures or read papers, let it hold private meetings of the League to discuss current local naval topics and communicate recommendations to the General Committee at home, and issue an annual report of such correspondence on lines similar to those of the China Association, and I venture to predict that in the payment of annual subscriptions the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer will find no laggards."

It is a notorious fact, says the *Seoul Press*, that in former days Korean officials used to embezzle part of the taxes paid in by the people. In April last a law was promulgated for the adjustment of the loss caused to the Treasury in this way and also for the prevention of embezzlement in future. The Government has since been investigating the matter and is said to have discovered that during the 12 years between 1895 and 1907 as much as three million yen have gone astray, about three thousand Korean officials being responsible for this. To their great consternation, the Government has now demanded of those officials, against whom there is clear evidence, the repayment of their misappropriations. Already over 100 officials, including some of high rank, have been informed of the Government's determination and have promised to make good the shortage, which amounts to about 300,000 yen altogether. Those unable to pay the whole amount at once will be allowed to do so by yearly instalments extending over eight years.

VICEROY CHANG'S VISIT TO HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, August 2nd.)

We doubt if any of the distinguished representatives of the Chinese Empire who have ever set foot in this Colony of Hongkong came here with more pleasurable anticipations than H. E. Viceroy CHANG JEN-CHUN, who has just spent two days in the Colony; certainly there has been none whom it has given the Colony greater pleasure to welcome. Viceroy CHANG during his three years at Canton has maintained the most cordial relations with the Government of this Colony. His Excellency's donation of two lakhs of dollars to the Endowment Fund of the proposed University and his efforts to obtain contributions from the wealthy residents of the two provinces under his Government, in the hope that a total of about half a million dollars may be forthcoming from the two provinces of China nearest to Hongkong, affords very tangible proof of His Excellency's appreciation of this Colony as being in the widest and best sense of the term an educational centre which has been of great benefit to China in the past, and likely to prove of immense service in the future, now that China is beginning to remodel her institutions on Western lines and to make use of Western scientific methods for the development of the vast resources of her great Empire. The two days spent in this Colony have been full of interest for His Excellency, while the advantage to the Colony of such a visit, we cannot doubt, will not prove unsubstantial. As time goes on it becomes more and more important that the most friendly relations should be cultivated between the Governments of Canton and Hongkong, and we view with the greatest satisfaction the progress made in that direction during the past two years, thanks alike to the diplomacy and tact of Sir FREDERICK LUGARD and the wisdom and foresight of H. E. CHANG. As is clearly shown the interesting dispatch on the University project, written by the Viceroy to the chief officials of the various Government Bureaux under his jurisdiction, which will be found reproduced in another column, His Excellency is a man of progressive ideas. He was not slow to appreciate the fact that the University which it is proposed to establish in the Colony would offer important advantages to the youth of China and is likely to be of "real use" in the development of the industrial and commercial enterprises on which there is now a noticeably growing tendency in China to embark. His Excellency's visit has doubtless given him a better idea than any number of the reports can do of the opportunities which abound in Hongkong for Chinese youths to acquire a practical training in Applied Science. His visit to the Tsimshoosha Dockyard must have made an indelible impression on his mind and enabled him to realise more clearly than he had probably ever realised before what important advantages are gained by Chinese youths working in establishments such as this, equipped with the most modern scientific appliances. As His Excellency ponders over what he has seen in Hongkong and all that it imports, he will not fail to recognise how much China is already indebted to Hongkong, which has educated during the past sixty years so many thousands of Chinese youths who are now prominently identified with the new political, educational, industrial and com-

mercial developments in China. His Excellency also, has probably recognised better than any of his predecessors in the Viceregal Yamen at Canton the disadvantage which attaches to the rule forbidding a Viceroy to travel outside his jurisdiction. Were it permissible for the Viceroy to exchange occasional visits with the Governor of Hongkong, we cannot doubt, that it would be mutually advantageous. When the railway from Kowloon to Canton is completed the identity of interests between the Colony and the neighbouring province will become increasingly evident, and it will be to the mutual advantage of the Colony and the neighbouring empire if the highly satisfactory relations which have been established between the two Governments can not only be maintained but strengthened as time goes on. The fact that the successor of H. E. CHANG, while filling the post of Tsoatai at Shanghai, had the misfortune to come into serious conflict with foreign interests there, has excited some doubt as to whether these friendly relations are likely to be maintained in his time, but while we have as Governor of Hongkong an administrator of Sir FREDERICK LUGARD's tact and ability, and at Canton a Viceroy of H. E. YUAN's education and intelligence, gloomy anticipations of this kind are to be deprecated. We sincerely hope that they will be as completely and agreeably falsified as they have been in the case of H. E. CHANG.

AFFAIRS IN SPAIN.

(Daily Press, August 3.)

Misfortunes still crowd upon unhappy Spain. Not only has the fighting with the Moros so far resulted in nothing but a succession of disasters, but the unpopularity of the war has grown to such an extent that it has found angry expression in riots and street fighting which have had to be quelled by the artillery, who have been responsible for a death roll which has not been equalled by some of the recent sanguinary encounters in which the forces of Spain have been worsted. The outlook is far from hopeful. Martial law has been proclaimed practically throughout the country, but what is perhaps the most significant of all the news items which have filtered through from Madrid is that the Queen and the Dowager-Queen have retired into France, indicating that there is a feeling of uneasiness as to what may happen with the people in such a temper as they apparently are in at present. Though the telegraphic information tells of the growing unpopularity of the war, it is still strangely silent as to the reason for this. As we remarked before, it might have been expected that national pride would have insisted on the hostilities which have broken out between Spain and Morocco being pursued with a vigour necessary to ensure the success of the Spanish arms and the maintenance of Spanish prestige, and we suggested as an explanation either that the Government had lost the confidence of the country or that the people were not convinced that the possessions belonging to Spain in North Africa were worth the cost of maintaining, with the single exception, perhaps, of Ceuta. But from information derived from other sources we have reason to believe that a lack of confidence in the present administration is not the cause which has given rise to so many forceful expressions of disapproval of the present campaign. Neither is the opposition to the war based on any sentimental foundation that war is wrong. The explanation is simply that the people prefer peace to war. Since their unfortunate experiences of last

century they have learned a little of the advantages of industrialism. A serious attempt to develop the resources of the country has resulted in new enterprises being established, industries have sprung up in many parts of the country, and the populace, becoming conscious of the ensuing prosperity, are naturally averse to the Government embarking on a course of action which is likely to take them from peaceful avocations. This is the crux of the whole problem. No war of any magnitude—and it is apparent that the present fighting is more serious than was at first anticipated—can be waged without augmenting the peace establishment of the army. In time of peace Spain's standing army does not amount to more than 100,000, but when war is threatened conscription is applied and that number is doubled, while, if necessary, the reserves can be called out, giving another 100,000. Now we see that 75,000 reinforcements are demanded for the troops in Melilla, which means that men will have to be drawn from their various employments to bear arms. As the people have no reason to look back on recent wars in which Spain was engaged with any feeling of pride, they show little enthusiasm over any military enterprise; but when added to that they have learned to enjoy the blessings of peace and to reap the advantages of a growing industrialism and a revival of trade, their present attitude does not seem quite so inexplicable. Some might see in this a happy augury for the future. They might regard it as a harbinger of that happy era when the men of one nation will cease to fight the men of another whom they do not know, and with whom they have no personal quarrel. But the time anticipated by CARLYLE has not yet arrived, and the wisdom of the present day having decreed that men must be prepared to bear arms in the service of their country when called upon, it is not improbable that Spain will have to make her sons realise that while enjoying the blessings of peace they must ever remember that the best guarantee for peace is preparedness for war.

THE LIKIN PROBLEM.

(Daily Press, August 4th.)

It was always hoped that one of the most important results of the introduction of railways into China would be an improvement in the means of levying the *likin* dues upon merchandise in transit through the Chinese Empire; but from the facts to which attention has been called in more directions than one there appears reason to fear that these hopes will be disappointed. In one way or another the *likin* farmers find means of obtaining taxes out of goods which are taken by rail, and they spare no pains either to divert goods from the new channels of communication, or at all events to come down upon the owners for what they claim as their dues. Attention was prominently called to this matter in connection with the Shanghai-Nanking Railway, and there can be little doubt that this is a typical illustration of what is likely to take place in other directions, unless the Central Government can come to some reasonable understanding with the Provincial Authorities upon the subject. If there is no early prospect of the total abolition of *likin* as promised in the MACKAY Treaty, it is to be hoped that something may be done in this direction, otherwise the interests of all railway enterprise in China must be severely menaced, and, not only so, the country will really be the loser of a large portion of the revenue which ought in reality to come to it,

but is now lost among a host of almost irresponsible underlings.

A system of transit dues, if properly conducted, is not in itself open to objection, and it may indeed form a perfectly legitimate and valuable source of revenue. From its nature, however, such a form of taxation is open to serious abuse unless it is carefully supervised by those in authority, and kept strictly under their control. Unfortunately in China, precisely the opposite principle is adopted; and the system of farming such taxes which is resorted to opens the door to a variety of abuses, which need not necessarily attach to the levy of transit dues, if only they are under proper control. It has always been so fully recognised that transit dues should form part of the Provincial revenues that it must be a difficult thing for the Central Authorities at Peking to interfere in such a matter. The answer of any Provincial Authority whose revenue may be in this way threatened is naturally that if he is interfered with in collecting his own taxes he cannot be expected to preserve order in his district—and this is an argument which will always have very great weight with the Peking officials, who are most anxious to throw upon the Provincial Authorities the responsibility of maintaining the peace and quiet of the Provinces immediately under their control.

It cannot, therefore, be ignored that even to reform the *likin* system—not to mention its total abolition—a system which is of immemorial standing in China, is no easy task—and certainly before railways were introduced it seemed to most people who had occasion to give any attention to the subject, an impossible one. At the same time it cannot be overlooked that, at least for some time after the conclusion of the Treaty of Tientsin (which provided that Transit Dues on foreign imports should be commuted for in full by a payment of half the tariff import dues), the *likin* dues were to this extent done away with. Later, no doubt, means were found by Chinese ingenuity of practically re-imposing them, and very much less advantage was gained by the arrangement for commutation than had been expected. But what was *bona fide* done for at least a short time is sufficient to show that, even under the old conditions—that is, before railways were thought of in China—the Central Authorities were strong enough to control the Provincial officials in this matter, if only the Peking officials chose to exert their power. This fact certainly encourages the idea that if the matter were seriously taken in hand by the Central Government a means of adjusting it to the satisfaction both of the Capital and of the Provinces could be arrived at. What would seem to be wanted, if abolition is impossible, is that the whole *likin* system should be placed under direct Central control, and that an arrangement should be made as to the proportion of the dues which should go to the Central and the Provincial Governments respectively. Such a scheme would not be beyond the powers of the Chinese, if once it were taken seriously in hand, and the change in the means of inter-communication now being effected by means of railways would greatly facilitate a task which might well seem almost impossible under the old and primitive means of transit and might more speedily effect the very desirable change promised in the MACKAY Treaty.

With regard to the imposition of three new taxes on foreigners living outside the treaty-limits in Korea the Foreign Consular Body at Seoul recently held a consultation and have informed the Residency-General that they see no objection to the new departure.

THE TRADE OF HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, August 5th.)

Hongkong being a free port, no reliable statistics can be furnished regarding the value of the trade of the port, nor is it possible to furnish reliable information of the tonnage of imports and exports. The Harbour Master, in his annual reports, does his best to supply the latter information, but he plainly states at the outset that "there are no reliable statistics of either imports or exports except as regards certain items of cargo dealt with in the Colony, of which either from their nature and the circumstances under which they are imported, or from the fact that they are required by law to be specially reported, substantially accurate returns can be given." The Harbour Master calculates that imports during the year 1908 showed a decrease in tonnage of 44 per cent, as compared with the figures for 1907; the exports a decrease of 10.7 per cent, while transit cargo declined 0.7 per cent. With these figures in mind it struck us as noteworthy, when glancing through the Abstract of Statistics just published by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, to find that in 1908 the total value of the trade between Hongkong and China had only been exceeded once in the past eight years, namely, in 1907, when the total trade was nearly 253 million Haikwan taels, while last year it was roughly ten million taels less, and was still more than ten million taels in excess of the highest figures for any previous year back to 1901. The value of imports from Hongkong into China is returned at Tls. 150,252,300, and the exports from China to Hongkong at Tls. 92,107,963—giving a total of Tls. 242,360,263, or, roughly, about £30,000,000 sterling. We are able to make a comparison with the direct foreign trade of Shanghai by consulting another table in this facicule of the Customs Reports. We find the value of the direct foreign trade of Shanghai in 1908 was just upon 303 million taels, or sixty-one millions in excess of the value of Hongkong's trade with China. We note also that the return for Shanghai showed a decline of about twenty-one million taels compared with the figures for 1907. But whether Shanghai is really a bigger emporium of trade than Hongkong cannot be determined by the figures we have quoted from the Reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs. Hongkong is the distributing centre for other countries besides China, and we have to bear this in mind in forming an approximate idea of the value of the trade of the port. When we see that the trade with China alone exceeds £30,000,000 annually, the computation that the total trade of the port is worth about twice that sum is probably not far wrong.

THE MACAO IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

(Daily Press, August 5th.)

A Portuguese correspondent writes to us lamenting that the Government of Macao should be wasting the money allocated for harbour improvements in sending officials to Shanghai to inspect and to purchase "toy-dredgers" for a work of such magnitude. It is suggested in our correspondent's letter that the work would be much better and much sooner done if it were put out to contract instead of being done departmentally. Our Macao correspondent said the same thing a couple of months ago. There has been a great deal of trumpeting over the allocation of a sum

of \$180,000 for dredging the harbour at Macao—a work which, if it is to be done properly, will cost, perhaps, a few millions. We have already pointed out that \$180,000 only exceeds by ten thousand dollars the cost of the dredger "St. Enoch," which the Hongkong Government bought at second-hand for dredging the site of the new typhoon shelter at Mongkoktsui. That is all that need be said to show that, with so paltry a vote for such an undertaking, nothing but a little tinkering at the job is to be expected. Possibly when the present negotiations with China for the delimitation of the boundaries of the Colony are concluded and settled to Portugal's satisfaction, appropriations more commensurate with the importance of the undertaking may be anticipated. It is greatly to be regretted that Governor ROCADAS who has worked so hard to get this improvement scheme in train should be at this juncture transferred to another field of activity. All who are acquainted with His Excellency's work during the short time he has been in Macao cordially congratulate him on his promotion, but they cannot but view his departure from Macao at the present time with keen regret as it may not improbably entail further delay in the actual commencement of operations until at least his successor has had time to study the situation.

CAPITAL AND LABOUR.

(Daily Press, August 6th)

It might be well if those who make it their business to encourage working men at Home to use any and every means to increase the amount of payment for labour—even to the extent of diminishing the capabilities of capital—to take a warning from some weighty observations which were made by Mr. MACKENZIE KING, who was a representative at the Opium Trade Conference at Shanghai, on his return to Canada. The remarks were published at the time, but they scarcely seem to have attracted the attention which they deserve. After speaking of the question of Asiatic Immigration, which was naturally that upon which the Canadians were most desirous to hear his views, he expressed his opinion that so far as immigration from the East was concerned the wiser counsels of conciliation and moderation which have of late prevailed would be sufficient to overcome difficulties in this direction; but he went on to say that the real peril which has to be faced, in the present day, was not in the possible movement of labour from Asia, but "the almost certain movement of capital, not only from America, but from Europe also, to Asia, once the industrial possibilities of that continent became better known, and a greater degree of stability and security of investment was afforded." In this he brings to notice, in a very practical shape, the danger which is unfortunately so much overlooked by those who hold that the one way to benefit the working classes in England is to increase their rate of pay. It is overlooked by them that any artificial action of this nature must of necessity be only of a temporary and limited character, and that the amount of pay which can be given to workmen of any kind must, like everything else, be dependent, in the long run, upon the simple question of supply and demand. It is forgotten that if the wages of the working men in a given country are artificially increased, the inevitable result must be that by degrees the very work upon which they are dependent will be forced away to some other country where labour is

cheaper, and it is against this danger that Mr. MACKENZIE KING utters a well-timed warning. If wages are to be constantly increased in England and America, the effect must be that work which has hitherto been done in those countries, will be done more cheaply and effectively elsewhere, and this will be more particularly the case with regard to India and China, who have hitherto been the chief customers for the products of English and American manufacturing enterprise. Already, the Japanese have done much in the direction of establishing factories, the products of which compete with those from Great Britain, and, as time goes on, we may be certain that China will follow suit in this direction. As Mr. COUSLAND, the Secretary to the Hongkong branch of the China Association, has pointed out, "Japanese goods, principally of a low class, besides cutting into the trade of similar British and Indian productions, are also taking the place of cloths formerly manufactured from Bombay yarn, so that our trade is affected in more ways than one." It can hardly be doubted, indeed, by anyone who takes an unbiased view of what is going on in the East, that the time may come when both Great Britain and America will find it increasingly difficult to hold their own as manufacturing countries against China, which has hitherto been one of the chief customers for Manchester and American goods. Both Japan and China possess one invaluable asset, cheap labour, whose advent to other countries is so stoutly resisted. It is not surprising that Mr. MACKENZIE KING should perceive a serious danger in this direction. Capital, the best friend of the working man, will always find its way to the places where it can be most profitably employed, and if the system, of late introduced into England, and supported by Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, of disregarding, if not actually opposing, the interests of capital and capitalists be persevered in, the diversion of capital from the country, to aid those who are already competing with us in manufactures, will be largely increased. What the precise effects of this may be on commerce and finance it is difficult to surmise, as commerce has a wonderful power of adapting itself to changed circumstances, and profitable business of a new character may still be carried on. But the effects upon the interests of the working classes at home and in America cannot be doubted, namely, the diminution of the work which can be done and the proportionate decline of these countries as manufacturing and industrial centres.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Has the scare which recently affected Britain spread to Hongkong? It looks like it when we find some thin-skinned individual rushing into print and demanding to know, because a German flag was floating gaily in the breeze at Knutsford Terrace, if the German Consul has taken up his residence there, and suggesting if that be not so that the hoisting of the flag is not in good taste. I have no brief for the parties concerned, but I understand the flag was displayed by some Germans in a blaze of patriotic enthusiasm. It meant nothing to outsiders, but it meant that the young fellows were pleased with themselves and jubilated by displaying their national flag. Surely Britons are not so stupid as to see in this an attempt on the part of our Teutonic friends to take possession of our tight little island. Please don't misunderstand me when I use the word tight.

I heard some remarks recently about the utility and beauty of the clock tower, but I think the spirited defence of the old landmark made by a contributor to the *Daily Press* not so long ago is too fresh in

most minds to need restatement. One reason suggested why it should remain is that it is a support and a guide for the obfuscated sojourner who is finding his way home after the dolehandhoris. Perhaps this is not an argument which would weigh very seriously, but all the same it might be mentioned.

Not so long ago quidnuncs at home had quite a busy time trying to decide what whisky was. Now a similar question has arisen in Hongkong and legal men are running to argument over the point: "What is brandy?" It is asserted that brandy must contain a certain amount of ether in so much spirit and a spirit without ether is not brandy at all. Brandy at fifty cents a bottle is, to say the least, a marvel of cheapness, and what else it is remains to be decided. One thing should not be overlooked and that is that temperance does not suffer through the State insisting that liquors supplied shall not only be pure but shall be what they purport to be.

Turtle hunting is responsible for several Hongkong parties returning to town looking dishevelled and drowsy. One of them struck it lucky on Friday night when no fewer than four turtles were captured. The total weight of the catch aggregated something like fourteen hundred pounds, which, were it put on the London market, would realise quite a substantial sterling equivalent. Not a bad night's work. It certainly suggests that it is more profitable to turn a turtle than to catch a crab.

The ex-Viceroy of Canton, who has been a distinguished visitor to Hongkong, must be built on heroic lines. The desire to acquire knowledge at first hand led him to visit Taikoo Dockyard on Friday and to inspect operations where the thermometer chronicled several degrees above a hundred. Yet he went through it as if he enjoyed it. The thirst for information was not so strong in several who accompanied him. Their thirst was of quite a different nature. It led to the inspection of the contents of bottles.

The Viceroy's visit was interesting for its revelation of the vagaries which are possible in the attire of European gentlemen. To dress properly the gentlemen should have turned out in frock coat, silk hat, with a pair of trousers of reticent pattern or stripe, but few attempted to carry out the sartorial code in all its completeness. All sorts of compromises were effected, and it must be conceded that certain of the innovations were rational, such as the topee replacing the stove pipe, but what can be said of such a weird combination as white trousers, frock coat and topee? Compared with the Oriental prescribed form of ceremonial garb such a commingling of the dress attire with that of the negligé must have appeared as a great licence. The effect was undoubtedly startling.

The Chief Justice has been saying things again. This time he has discovered that all is not well in the bankruptcy administration, and he has given expression to a few home truths which will doubtless "shake up" those who have been weighed in the balance and found wanting.

What a sensation Manila must have experienced the other day when a local judge declared that all its Ordinances were null and void because they had not been published. I don't suppose that means that lawlessness holds sway in the "Queen of the Orient" as a result of this decision, or that martial law will have to be proclaimed to tide them over the difficulty. The situation is a most interesting one, and should not be without its warning to other places.

RODOLPH RANDOM.

The death is reported of Père du Cray, who succumbed suddenly on July 25th at his residence, Tientsin. Though not in the best of health of late, Père du Cray was able to officiate at early mass on the day of his death, but on returning to his residence he became seriously ill, and died at 4.30 in the afternoon. Père du Cray was the head of the Jesuit Mission in North China, and had been in the Far East for nearly thirty years. He was fifty-three years old.

HONGKONG.

The new harbour light situated on Signal Hill, Kowloon, was in operation for the first time on Sunday night.

A case of plague was notified on Saturday, the dead body of a Chinese being found in a boat near Yaumati. This case brings the number for the year up to 130.

The death is announced at Home of Major-General Wilsone-Black, who was commander of the forces in Hongkong about ten years ago. His body was cremated at Golder's Green.

H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise, provisionally and pending the receipt of His Majesty's exequatur, Mr. T. Funatsu as Consul for Japan at Hongkong.

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve the appointment of the Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin to be an official member of the Executive Council during the absence on leave of the Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson.

Mr. A. E. Wright has been deputed by H.E. the Governor-in-Council to act on behalf of the Building Authority in all cases referred to in sections 203-207 of Ordinance 1 of 1903 in connection with dangerous buildings.

Sir Matthew Nathan, the Governor of Natal and formerly Governor of Hongkong, while driving on the 8th ult. was thrown out of his carriage as the result of a collision with a wagon. His Excellency sustained some slight injuries. The accident appears to have taken place in London.

On Aug. 4 the first of a series of promenade concerts arranged by the Catholic Union took place in the brilliantly illuminated compound of the R. C. Cathedral. The band of the Buffs went through a programme of selections which delighted the large number in attendance.

The new premises which have been erected for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company at the corner of Pedder Street and Des Vœux Road are nearing completion. The new structure, which is decidedly handsome and a welcome addition to the architectural beauties of the city, is certainly worthy of the traditions of the princely house.

The financial statement prepared by the Colonial Treasurer for the month of May shows that the balance of assets and liabilities on April 30th was \$205,037.42, while the revenue from May 1st to 31st was \$475,370.31, leaving a credit balance of \$267,332.89. Against this there was an expenditure of \$77,513.26, which leaves a credit balance of \$344,846.15.

Mr. R. A. Lowry was entertained to a complimentary dinner at the Hongkong Hotel on Saturday night by his office colleagues. The gathering included a number of other journalistic friends. In the course of the evening he was presented with an illuminated address. Mr. Lowry is proceeding to Bangkok to take up the position of official shorthand writer at the Supreme Court.

A statement of the Colony's assets and liabilities on May 31st shows that the total liabilities were \$375,489.03, while the total liabilities were \$72,335.18. Reimbursement due by railway construction account on December 1st was \$1,356,136.51 less a credit balance on account of 1909, which brought the amount to \$899,550.71. The balance of assets in the general account thus stands at \$1,244,396.86.

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Mr. C. W. Beckwith, Lieutenant, R.N., to act as Harbour Master, Marine Magistrate, Emigration and Customs Officer, Registrar of Shipping, Superintendent of the Gunpowder Depot, Collector of Light Dues, and Superintendent of Imports and Exports, during the absence on leave of Commander B. H. Taylor, Commander, R.N., or until further notice, with effect from the 4th proximo.

Mrs. Mason, of No. 6, Hanoi Road, Kowloon, proceeded against a ricksha coolie for refusing to accept a fare. Complainant informed Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy that when she landed from the ferry she hailed the defendant, who was on the ricksha stand. He declined to take her, however, and still refused after he had been offered the legal fare. Defendant told the Court that he was willing to take the lady when he got his money. His Worship imposed a fine of \$5, the alternative being fourteen days imprisonment.

Three natives were charged before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Aug. 3 with the larceny of four cases of Benares opium valued at \$4,000, the property of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., from the s.s. *Kut Sang*. Another man was placed in the dock on a charge of receiving. The hearing of the case was adjourned.

The Japanese Government, regarding Hongkong as a most important point in view of its geographical position with regard to South China, and in consideration of the trade between Japan and China and also of Japan's diplomatic relations with other countries, proposes, says the *Japan Chronicle*, to raise the Japanese Consulate at Hongkong to the rank of a Consulate-General. It is believed that the proposal will be put in operation next year.

Inspector Collett effected a clever arrest at Shaikiwan on Wednesday night, when a native who has long been suspected of illegally dealing in opium was brought to book. The defendant, whose name appears to have been familiar to opium smokers in the vicinity, had many callers, and among them was an informer who passed in four marked subsidiary coins, and when the police arrived later they found the informer with a quantity of opium and the defendant with the marked coins. His Worship imposed a fine of \$130.

Two natives were charged before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy on Aug. 3 with the larceny of \$52 from a money-changer at No. 4, Des Voeux Road West. While one man kept guard in the street the two defendants entered the shop, one wished to be shown some towels, and while the shopkeeper was taking them out of a safe the other man appropriated the money. The shopkeeper observed him, however, and handed both defendants over to the police, the man outside making his escape. His Worship sentenced each of the defendants to six months' hard labour.

The eight natives whose arrest at Yaumati on Wednesday evening was accomplished by Detective-Sergeant Appleton appear to have been members of a gang of pickpockets who have many crimes to answer for. A few evenings prior to the arrest the police learned that a Frenchman had been robbed of a number of gold coins, and subsequently Detective Appleton received information to the effect that a few of these coins would be found in the defendants' quarters at Yaumati. His search proved successful, and more than successful, for he also found purses, satchels, and pocket-books which had apparently been stolen. The defendants were charged before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistracy yesterday on a charge of receiving stolen goods, and the hearing was adjourned.

THE ITALIAN CONVENT.

We are informed by the Superioress of the Italian Convent in Caine Road that on Saturday afternoon the Convent was greatly honoured by two distinguished visits. Before his departure for Shanghai H. E. Viceroy Chang Jen Chun, sent his Secretary, Taotai Hsueh Yung Nien, with a letter from His Excellency to the Superioress regretting his inability to visit the Convent for want of time. His Excellency enclosed the very generous donation of \$300, which was gratefully accepted. Taotai Hsueh Yung Nien was shown over the whole Convent building and expressed himself as greatly interested in the hundreds of Chinese children who are brought up and educated in the Convent.

Later in the afternoon H. E. General Sir Joachim Machado, K.C.M.G., with Capt. Ciratti and Norton and Mr. and Mrs. Leiria, also honoured the Convent with a visit. The Portuguese visitors spent the greater part of the afternoon in going over every department of the Convent.

The Superioress desires also to gratefully acknowledge the beneficence of the visitors in their liberal donations to the funds for the maintenance of the poor orphan children.

The East Asiatic Company, Ltd., at Bangkok have secured a contract for twenty thousand tons of steel rails for the new Peninsula line of railway, and construction work is to commence forthwith.

SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Aug. 3 at the Board Room. Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe presided, and there were present: Hon. Mr. P. N. H. Jones (Vice President), Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar-General), Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Dr. G. L. Fitzwilliams, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Mr. Ho Kom Tong, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Dr. Pearce (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. W. Bowen Rowlands (Secretary).

BAKEHOUSE BYELAWS.

The HEAD OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT submitted a minute relative to an amendment of regulation No. 10 of the Bakehouse Byelaws.

Mr. HOOPER proposed the adoption of this amendment, which was seconded by the President.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH said the decision to allow two men to sleep in a bakehouse was only arrived at by the casting vote of the Chairman. There was a certain amount of feeling among members of the Board regarding this question, and generally it was not considered desirable that two men should sleep in a bakehouse. For his own part he did not think it at all desirable, and at home no one was allowed to sleep in a bakehouse. The idea of Chinese of the coolie class sleeping in the room in which the bread was eaten at our meals was prepared and baked was repugnant to our feelings. If any limitation was made to the byelaw he should prefer to see it made to correspond with the dairy byelaws, which prevented anyone from sleeping in a dairy. He opposed the resolution and asked members to consider the question carefully before voting on it. With regard to the question of eating-houses, he did not want to put difficulties in the way of licences, but he thought there might be another way of getting over the trouble. If people slept on the premises at all they slept with the flour and with the bread.

Mr. HOOPER thought the last speaker had gone outside the question by quoting eating-houses. The byelaw referred to bakehouses.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH stated that some of the eating houses were licensed as bakehouses because they sold bread and biscuits to customers who did not consume them on the premises.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—Why were two caretakers asked for?

The PRESIDENT—Because one man is apparently afraid to sleep on the premises. The second is wanted for greater security, I suppose.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH moved as an amendment that the matter be referred to a committee to consider the question more fully. Dr. FITZWILLIAMS seconded, and the amendment was carried, the committee appointed being composed of the Registrar-General, the Medical Officer of Health and Mr. Lau Chu Pak.

RATCATCHING AT KOWLOON.

The ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH submitted a report concerning rat-catching at Kowloon. He stated that ten men were engaged in Old Kowloon, while there was one rat catcher in Kowloon City. The average daily take of rats for 31 days ended July 9th was 51.10, as against 46.3 during a similar period ended May 14th. This was previous to the introduction of the Kai Ching average rat catchers.

Mr. HOOPER inquired—What is the Kai Ching? I cannot understand some of the abbreviations in this minute. Perhaps the Assistant Medical Officer of Health will explain at the Board meeting.

Mr. HOOPER stated that the Medical Officer of Health had explained to him the abbreviations in his report and he was quite satisfied with the explanation.

RETRENCHMENT SCHEME.

The following report by a Special Committee consisting of Messrs. F. H. May, A. M. Thomson, C. McL. Messer, and Murray Stewart was submitted for the consideration of members:

1. On the suggestion of Mr. Messer, who was lately Head of the Sanitary Department, we have the following recommendations to make for re-arrangement of the duties of the Sanitary Inspectors and consequent reduction of staff.

There are at present 13 District Inspectors,

5 Plague Inspectors, 3 Inspectors in charge of Cattle Depôts, 1 Inspector in charge of Disinfecting Station, 1 Inspector doing the duties of Storekeeper, 1 Inspector of Cemeteries and 4 Scavenging Inspectors.

Instead of this system, we recommend that Victoria be divided into 12 Health Districts and Kowloon into three and that one Inspector be in charge of each; that Scavenging and Plague Inspectors be abolished and that in each district the District Inspector be solely responsible for carrying out the Sanitary duties in his district. Dual control would cease and responsibility would be more definitely fixed.

The saving in staff would be seven Inspectors and cost of their uniform, house allowance, etc. Of the staff of 21 Inspectors, 14 should be first class and 7 second class.

Mr. R. O. Hutchison, the present Acting Head of the Sanitary Department, concurs in this scheme, which he considers will produce increased efficiency, but he urges that allowance for 3 Inspectors on leave should be made, the establishment being reduced to 24 only (15 first class and 9 second class).

The principle of allowing for staff on leave is admitted in other Departments and we do not think it necessary to introduce it here.

The increase of Health Districts from 10 to 12 was recommended by the Sanitary Commission, and it was objected that comparison of tables of statistics and confusion in records of survey of houses would result. These objections are not, in our opinion, strong enough to bar an improvement if it is useful. But if a contrary opinion is held or if it is considered that allowance should be made for Officers absent on leave, then we recommend that the existing 9 Districts be adhered to, but that the principle of having one Inspector solely in charge of each be adopted. This will leave 2 Inspectors spare to allow for leave, etc.

2. Both Mr. McL. Messer and Mr. Hutchison are of opinion that the number of Foremen Interpreters can be reduced by 6.

3. Mr. Messer further suggested that as a means of curtailing the work of the Department and of exercising a more efficient control over the Sanitary staff, the Eastern, Central and Western District offices be closed. Mr. Hutchison agreed as to the Central District Office, which he considers serves no useful purpose. We recommend that this office be closed with a saving of the telephone clerk and messenger employed there and of the rent of the premises (\$816 per annum). Mr. Hutchison is opposed to the closing of the Eastern and Western District Offices, principally on the ground that Chinese will go to the District offices about small matters which they will not take the trouble to go to the Head Office for. He also hopes to make further use of them for the distribution of rat poison, bird-lime and rat traps. We find that the number of inquiries made at the District Offices in question by the Chinese population averages from 6 to 7 a day with a slight increase when plague is prevalent, and in the face of these figures we are not prepared to recommend that they be closed.

4. Mr. Messer and Mr. Hutchison are agreed that at the Head Office, the post of Principal Clerk can be abolished and that the Sanitary Surveyor is no longer required. These are reductions that were decided upon in connection with the reorganisation consequent on the report of the Sanitary Commission.

5. They are also agreed that one fifth-grade clerk and one messenger can be abolished. We therefore recommend these reductions and that the two clerks and interpreters to the M.O.H.'s be required to assist in the ordinary work of the Head Office.

6. Owing to the discontinuance of burying plague corpses, the crew of the plague barge and the watchmen at Cheung Sha Wan cemetery can be dispensed with.

7. Mr. Messer has recommended that at the Disinfecting Station, only so many artisans should be employed as for whom there is constant work, excess work in the plague season or otherwise being let out to Chinese contractors. This recommendation has already been given effect to as far as 9 artisans are concerned. We recommend reduction of staff by 10.

8. We further recommend that the overseer at the New Western Market (£110 per annum) be abolished and the overseer

at the Central Market be given a travelling allowance of \$10 a month and an increase of pay of \$20 and that he visit the Western Market twice a day.

9 Mr. Messer has suggested means by which a saving of \$3,000 per annum can be effected in the lighting of the Central Market, and a saving of \$4,000 per annum can be made owing to recent changes in disinfecting methods and the other reductions under 'Other Charges' shewn in Enclosure No. 17 (12) follow if these recommendations for reduction of staff are adopted.

(Sd.) { F. H. MAY.
A. M. THOMSON.
C. M. L. MESSER.
M. STEWART.

MINUTE BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

The following extract from a minute by H.E. the GOVERNOR was attached:

Please see my minute in 2959 '09 attached and see Hansard for 1908, pages 23 and 24. I stated that there would be 27 Inspectors under the new scheme; there appear to be 28 retained. The "Inspector doing duty of storekeeper" is excess? The reasons for retaining the 4 scavenging Inspectors was fully stated by me. The Plague Inspectors as such were abolished and in the current Estimates none appear under the name. I was myself anxious to abolish them, but was told that it could not be done at present. The objection to dividing Victoria into 12 instead of 10 districts were set out in my speech. The M. O. H. was strongly opposed to that scheme. It was decided and notified by me that each Inspector would be solely responsible for his district.

I have in my notes on the Medical Department dealt with the question of allowing a margin of staff to replace vacancies due to absence on leave. It is essential and unavoidable to do this in a self-contained Department which cannot borrow from other Departments. My own judgment is that the 5 Plague Inspectors might be abolished, the present districts being retained as they are. The District Inspector to be responsible (as already directed) for his district. The 4 Scavenging Inspectors (as I said in C. S. O. at the time) to be retained to meet emergencies and form a margin to replace vacancies (leave, sickness or death). The Committee recommend a reduction to 21 from 28. If the 5 Plague Inspectors are abolished and the unauthorised (so far as I remember) storekeeper is abolished, the number would be 22. If this post is considered essential and provides full work for a man, it could be retained and one scavenging inspector decreased.

The staff would then be:—13 District Inspectors (10, Victoria, 3, Kowloon) at 1st class; 3 cattle depots (2 Victoria, 1 Kowloon) 2nd class; 1 disinfecting station, 2nd class; 1 storekeeper, 2nd class; 1 cemeteries, 2nd class; and 3 scavenging (and available for replacements) 2nd class.

Let me have the views of the M. O. H. please.

2. Interpreters. Originally 17. Committee advised 15. Reduced to 15. There are now 14 (plus 3 clerks and interpreters to M.O.H.'s). If, since Messrs. Messer and Hutchison concur that 6 can be dispensed with, I concur if the Sanitary Board and M. O. H. concur.

3. I concur re closing Central and retaining E. and W. offices.

4. It was decided to abolish the post of Sanitary Surveyor so soon as present occupant resigned or could be provided for elsewhere. I do not remember re Principal Clerk.

5. I am glad to hear that these reductions are feasible.

6. This apparently should have been done long ago. Why has the H.S.D. not made the recommendation?

7. I concur. (One more to be discharged.)

8. The Estimates show 2 overseers and one "Fitter" of Markets. (The fitter is at the Western Market). One overseer only to be retained and one fitter. I concur.

9. The possibility of such large economies reflects badly on the previous administration of this Department.

(Sd.) F. D. LUGARD.

4-5-09.

REPLY BY THE M. O. H.

The following is the reply of Dr. Francis Clark, Medical Officer of Health, to His Excellency's minute:—

1. (1). I have the honour to report for the information of His Excellency the Governor that the transfer of so much of the work of this Department to the Public Works Department by Ordinance 14 of 1908 renders it quite feasible to carry out His Excellency's proposals of:—

(a) Abolishing the plague inspectors qua such, the duties they now perform to be carried out by District Inspectors.

(b) Retaining the Districts in the City of Victoria as they are now, viz., ten, and providing three Districts for Kowloon.

(2). These arrangements will depend, however, for their efficiency upon:—

(a) The retention of the four scavenging inspectors—three for the City of Victoria and one for Kowloon—referred to in the earlier part of His Excellency's minute of the 4th instant, for without men for this special work, it would be impossible for even the fifteen inspectors proposed by the committee (twelve for Victoria and three for Kowloon) to efficiently carry out all the duties appertaining to their Districts.

(b) The provision of at least three Inspectors to replace vacancies due to absence or leave, sickness, etc., for otherwise either District must be left unattended or the scavenging work be neglected. With a staff of over twenty men, it is certain that three at least of them will always be on leave.

(3). The scavenging work will, in my opinion, never be properly carried out until it is undertaken by the Government directly, instead of through a contractor, and I believe that such an arrangement would prove more economical than the present contract system and would probably enable the staff to be further reduced.

(4). The scheme I would suggest, therefore, would be as follows:—13 District Inspectors (Victoria 10, Kowloon 3); 3 cattle depot inspectors; 1 disinfecting station; 1 cemeteries; 4 scavenging inspectors (Victoria 3, Kowloon 1); and 3 inspectors available for replacements.

This makes a total of 25, or two less than the number fixed by His Excellency the Governor when introducing the Bill which subsequently became Ordinance 14 of 1908 (Hansard 1908, page 24). The difference is accounted for by the abolition of five plague inspectors qua such whom His Excellency then proposed to retain with the addition of three inspectors available for replacements, as with the abolition of the former, it would be impossible to fill up leave vacancies from the scavenging staff.

(5) The storekeeper was not included in His Excellency's estimate, nor is he included in any list above, and as he does not perform any inspectorial duties, I would suggest that he be shown in the Estimates as a "storekeeper" under the heading of "office staff" rather than as one of the inspectors and that his emoluments be graded accordingly.

(6) In urging the adoption of this scheme, at least for the present, I would point out that there are now twenty-eight Sanitary Inspectors on the permanent establishment, and therefore that any further economies must be on paper only, until some of these men retire—they are almost all comparatively young men—or until other appointments are found for them in the Government service and in view of the general retrenchment throughout all Departments, I presume that this will not be easy.

(7). As vacancies arise, further economies can be carefully considered and, where possible, such vacancies need not be filled up, but in the meantime, the Colony is growing more or less rapidly and it is probable therefore that by the time the Retrenchment Committee's scheme could be given full effect to, the Colony will have acquired fresh needs.

11. The Foreman Interpreters (coloured men) have been attached hitherto to the plague inspectors, and with the abolition of these the Foreman Interpreters will no longer be needed. One additional District is being provided for Kowloon, and this will necessitate an additional interpreter (Chinese) in the place of one of the Foreman Interpreters. The Estimates show nine of these men and the Committee propose to abolish six. My scheme involves the abolition of eight, as I am not asking for the two extra districts for the City of Victoria.

III. I think it is only fair to Dr. Atkinson to explain that the economies which are being effected in the matter of disinfection "owing to recent changes in disinfecting methods" are entirely the outcome of the final report of the

Indian Plague Commission which was only published in 1908, and in which it was finally decided that disinfection of plague houses could safely be replaced by treatment with some pulicide. These pulicides are very cheap when compared with the cost of the ordinary disinfectants, and although they were in use in conjunction with disinfectants in this Colony as early as 1906, as shown by the attached papers, yet we would not have been justified in ignoring the advice of the Special Commissioner (Professor Simpson), who was sent out from home to advise the Government on all matters connected with plague, by omitting all ordinary disinfection and using only pulicides until the Indian Commission had completed their most elaborate and far-reaching experiments on the subject and had issued their report.

Mr. Shelton Hooper minuted:—This should be referred to a Select Committee of the Board to report on.

Mr. HOOPER said he had nothing further to add. One could not digest the circulated report in half an hour. He was sure His Excellency would be only too pleased if the Board gave it the fullest consideration.

The matter was referred to a select committee composed of the President, Mr. Hooper and Dr. Fitzwilliams.

DRAGON OR SNAKE?

A Chinese wearing a long silken robe was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Magistrate's court on Aug. 3 with larceny, and with returning from banishment. According to the story told the Court the defendant met a Chinese girl in a restaurant at Shektonsui on Monday night, nearly suffocated her with cigarette fumes, accompanied her to her place of abode and there removed a pair of gold bangles from her wrists and substituted a pair of brass bangles. When she again became *compos mentis* she discovered the trick, but found that her companion had departed. Four days later she saw him in front of her residence, and brought about his arrest. The defendant denied the charge of larceny, but Detective Watt produced the banishment book and proved that the defendant had returned to the Colony before his term of banishment was concluded. Amongst other marks by which the detective recognised the defendant was a snake tattooed on his left forearm. Defendant, however, asserted that he had nothing but a dragon on the arm mentioned, and challenged the detective to say whether it was a male or a female dragon. Further, he stated that the man who was previously banished was his twin brother, who bore a marked resemblance to himself. His Worship held the charge proved on the evidence and sentenced the defendant to one year's imprisonment with hard labour and four hours' stocks.

SAD DROWNING FATALITY.

EUROPEAN DROWNED.

A bathing party promoted by a number of warders of Victoria Jail was brought to a sad termination on Monday by the drowning of one of the party. A launch carried the holiday-makers to Gin Drinkers' Bay, and it was in that vicinity that the tragedy occurred. Warder P. Cockes took a header off the launch and failed to come to the surface. After being beneath water for more than the customary time his comrades began to fear that all was not well, and a few of the stronger swimmers continued to dive for him for sometime, but without success. It was a very sorry party that returned to Hongkong late that evening, and reported to the police that they had been unable to recover the body of their comrade. The body was recovered on August 5th, and was interred in the Happy Valley cemetery on the following day.

More than 30,000 Chinese have been received into Church fellowship by the China Inland Mission since its commencement in 1866, and of these more than 21,000 still remain. Of the number 2,507 were received last year. The C.I.M. has 928 missionaries, 210 central stations, 760 outstations, 970 chapels, eight hospitals, 42 dispensaries, 88 opium refuges, and more than 200 day and boarding schools, with about 4,000 scholars.

SUPREME COURT.

Tuesday, 3rd August.

IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE FULL COURT.

A COMPRADORE'S LIABILITIES.

In the action in which S. J. David and Company were appellants and Chan Ut Chin was respondent, Counsel, at the request of the Court, attended for the purpose of discussing certain points on which their Lordships wished to hear further argument.

Mr. McNeill, from Shanghai, instructed by Mr. Gedge, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, appeared for the appellants, and Mr. Slade and Mr. Alabaster, instructed by Messrs. Ewens & Harston, appeared for the respondent.

Mr. Slade pointed out that the net result of such mortgage was that a sum of money was owed to the mortgagee, but it was not owed to the mortgagee by or from anybody. There was no personal liability at all under the deed. It was quite correct to speak of the money as owing, but it was not owing from anybody. What was owed was owed on the security of the land. It might be said there was a debt owing to the mortgagee, but it was not owing by anybody. It was merely a security on the land.

Mr. McNeill said that with great respect he flatly contradicted the assertion that there was no liability on anything or anybody except on the property. Such assertion was begging the question. The whole point was that the executors incurred no personal liability.

The matter was argued at considerable length and the Court was adjourned *sine die*.

Wednesday, 4th August.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

HONGKONG MILLING COMPANY V. ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.

The Chief Justice (Sir F. Piggott) and his Honour the Puisne Judge (Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz) sat to hear an action at the instance of the Hongkong Milling Company, of which Mr. H. Percy Smith is liquidator, against Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., plaintiffs claiming a sum of \$100,000 for damages for alleged breach of warranty by the defendants under an agreement dated 23rd March, 1907. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., and Mr. M. Slade, instructed by Mr. John Hastings, appeared for plaintiffs, defendants being represented by Mr. McNeill, of Shanghai, and Mr. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker, and Deacon.

The statement of claim set forth that under the agreement mentioned the defendants agreed to sell and the plaintiffs to buy an ice plant with a manufacturing capacity of 24 tons per day for the price of 95,650 marks, German currency, and the defendants agreed for that sum to deliver the plant at the company's premises and to erect and complete the same with all proper accessories. Under the agreement the defendants guaranteed that the plant would manufacture ice of the same clearness and quality as the ice being then manufactured by the Hongkong Ice Company. The defendants supplied the plant, but did not manufacture ice of the clearness and quality warranted. Instead it produced an inferior quality of ice. By an agreement, of which the defendants were aware, made between the plaintiff company and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., the plaintiff company agreed to sell and Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. to buy for a period of six years all surplus ice manufactured by the plaintiff company over and above such quantity as might be required for their own consumption, such surplus not to exceed 6,300 tons per annum, at the price of five-eighths of a cent per pound, which price would have given large profits to the plaintiff company over and above the costs of manufacture, and by this agreement the plaintiff company agreed that the ice to be so sold to Jardine, Matheson and Co. should be in quality, purity and clearness equal to the ice then being made by the Hongkong Ice Company. Owing to the breach of the warranty by the defendants the plaintiffs had been unable to perform their contract with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and

Co., and had lost the profits which they would have made thereby and had suffered other heavy damages. The plaintiffs claimed as damages the cost of the plant, together with the expenses incurred in erecting an ice factory and store, less the estimated value of the ice-making plant. They also claimed for loss of profits.

Defendants in their amended statement of defence said their attention was not drawn at the time the agreement was signed to the inclusion in the agreement of any terms different to those contained in the written correspondence. They signed the agreement in the honest mistaken belief that the agreement contained in effect no terms other than those which were contained in the written correspondence. There was a duty cast upon the plaintiffs to draw the attention of the defendants to the fact that the plaintiffs or their solicitors had inserted in the agreement a term or terms which had not been mentioned during the preliminary negotiations. The plaintiffs were estopped by their conduct and breach of the duty from setting up or relying on any terms not contained in the written correspondence. Defendants asserted that the warranty as to the clearness and quality of the ice, of which the plaintiffs complained, was not included in the written correspondence. Defendants declared that the plant had not been taken over by the servants of the plaintiff company in full working order as agreed. As a matter of fact it had not been taken over at all by the plaintiff company. Alternatively, if, which the defendants denied, the plant had been taken over in full working order by the plaintiffs no attempt had been made by the plaintiffs or their servants between the taking over and the date of the writ to manufacture ice with the plant. The defendants did not admit that the ice plant failed to manufacture ice of the standard manufactured by the Hongkong Ice Company. They alleged that no fair or complete trial had been made of the plant, and that owing to the action of the plaintiffs or their servants the defendants were not permitted to run the plant for a full week as required by the agreement, and any inability on the part of plaintiffs to perform their contract with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. was not owing to any breach by the defendants of their alleged warranty, but had been owing to the wrongful action of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. in refusing to accept the ice manufactured by the plant. Defendants averred that such inability (if any) had, owing to the fact that the plaintiffs had put it out of their power to earn the large profits referred to, by reason of the fact that on or about March 18th, 1908, the plaintiff company had agreed in writing to execute and deliver to the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China a mortgage of the premises whereon the plant was then being erected, and by reason of the fact that in pursuance of the agreement the plaintiff company and its official liquidator on or about July 9th, 1908, had assigned by way of mortgage the premises, together with all erections thereto belonging. There were still large sums due to the Bank by the plaintiffs under the mortgage, and the Bank were now engaged in negotiations with a view to the sale of the plant. The defendants also stated that such inability (if any) had been owing to the fact that the plaintiffs had in consequence of the complete failure of their flour milling business gone into liquidation, and consequently had become and were still unable to manufacture any ice whatever, inasmuch as such manufacture of ice was to be conducted as an accessory to the milling of flour and was to be carried on with power derived from the flour milling plant and machinery.

Mr. Slade having read the pleadings, Sir Henry Berkeley opened the case at length. He said that the failure to supply machinery capable of turning out ice of the same quality as that manufactured by the Hongkong Ice Company was the cause of action. The ice manufactured by this plant was inferior both in clearness and quality.

Mr. McNeill—Do you produce the ice?

Sir Henry Berkeley—I will produce the silent testimony of the blocks of ice themselves. Proceeding, he described the circumstances which led up to the agreement. Negotiations were conducted by Mr. A. H. Rennie, on behalf of the Milling Company, and Mr. Arndt, on behalf of Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg and Company. Mr. Rennie unhappily was dead, but Mr.

Chard, a partner, would be called. The Milling Company possessed at Junk Bay a large supply of water which was necessary for milling operations, and it occurred to the active mind of Mr. Rennie that this water might be utilised to great advantage in the making of ice if he could obtain a good market for it. He approached Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Company, the Managers of the Hongkong Ice Company, and in October, 1907, an agreement was signed between the partners by which Messrs. Jardine, Matheson agreed to purchase ice of the quality manufactured by the Ice Company. The Hongkong Ice Company was an old established Company and its standard of ice had been maintained for years. Counsel then dealt with the allegation made by defendants that they were not aware of certain terms in the agreement, as they relied on the written correspondence, and read letters to show that the stipulations inserted in the agreement were known to defendants before the agreement was signed. Moreover, the agreement had been in defendant's possession practically a week before it was signed. Counsel remarked that some 2,000 pounds worth of the ice made by the plant was deposited in the cold storage rooms of the Hongkong Ice Company, where it still was and could be seen.

Mr. McNeill—Is it rotting away?

Sir Henry Berkeley—My friend suggests it is rotting in the cellars of the Ice Company. It is not in cellars, but in the cold storage. Ice only rots when it is brought into contact with air.

The Chief Justice—I have never heard the word "rot" applied to ice. Does it mean melting?

Sir Henry Berkeley—Well, not exactly, I think.

Mr. Slade—It is the effect on ice of water which may be of about the same temperature as the ice, which eats into the ice and makes it more liable to melt when exposed to air. Ice melts much faster in water than in air.

Sir Henry Berkeley then went on to state that plaintiffs had nothing to do with whether the machinery could or could not turn out ice. What they had to establish was the fact that a warranty was made that this particular ice could be turned out. If the machinery could not produce the ice which the defendants warranted that it could produce, then defendants must stand the consequences.

Mr. Alabaster then applied that the special damage paragraphs in the statement of claim be struck out. He did so on the ground that the plaintiffs had not said that they would prove what they ought to prove, and that was that the defendants knew that the contract with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. contained a warranty as to the clearness and quality of the ice. Certain letters read by Sir Henry Berkeley might show that defendants knew that ice had been sold to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., but they clearly did not know that it was a term of the Jardine, Matheson and Co. contract that the ice should be of a particular quality and clearness.

Mr. Slade said that if a party made a contract with a man and informed him that it was for the purpose of fulfilling a contract which the first had made, and in consequence of the second party failing to carry out the contract whereby the first party was unable to carry out his contract, then he was liable for all losses and damage resulting.

The Chief Justice thought the letters showed knowledge by defendants of the contract, which was in itself sufficient.

Mr. McNeill—Not a knowledge of the contract—a knowledge that there was a contract.

The Court rejected the application.

Mr. Slade, who followed, read several letters which were put in, and the hearing was adjourned.

Thursday, 5th August.

The action was resumed in which the Hongkong Milling Company, of which Mr. H. Percy Smith is liquidator, claimed \$100,000 from Arnhold, Karberg and Co. for damages, for alleged failure to supply an ice-making plant according to stated requirements. Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C.,

and Mr. M. W. Slade, instructed by Mr. John Hastings, appeared for plaintiffs, defendants being represented by Mr. McNeill, from Shanghai, and Mr. Alabaster, instructed by Mr. H. W. Looker, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon.

Mr. Slade—Perhaps my friend will not object if I show your Lordships two blocks of ice.

The Chief Justice—Are they going to be put in?

Mr. Slade—Yes.

Sir Henry Berkeley—They will be put in as exhibits.

Mr. Slade—This is the Milling Company's ice. It was unfortunately broken on the way down.

Sir Henry Berkeley—Will you lift it up?

Mr. Slade shook his head.

Sir Henry Berkeley—It takes some doing.

Mr. Haxton came forward and lifted the piece of ice.

Sir Henry Berkeley—It is quite cloudy. The other is the Hongkong Ice Company's product.

Mr. Slade—The Ice Company's block is seven feet long, six feet high, and nine inches thick. Look at its clearness. It is double the thickness of the other. You can see anything through it.

Sir Henry Berkeley—The ice is produced for comparison.

Mr. Slade then dealt with the subject of letter which would be formally proved.

At a later stage.

Mr. McNeill addressed the Court. He said—We know there is at the present moment in the premises of the Hongkong Ice Company a piece of ice which is suitable for the purpose of my argument. It is a 20lb. block. We have applied to the Ice Company to sell it, but they have declined to do so. I have requested my friend to ask the manager to let us have it.

Mr. Slade—It is a good sample.

Mr. McNeill—My friend says he will do that, and on that ground I must apply to the Court for it.

Mr. Slade—We say it is not a fair sample of our product.

Mr. McNeill—We want to buy it, but they will not sell it.

Mr. Slade—We say it is not a fair sample. When ice is manufactured in a hurry air needles come into it.

Mr. McNeill—We want to buy it.

Mr. Slade—It is nothing like a fair sample.

The Puisne Judge—You can call evidence to prove that.

Mr. Slade—It seems a most misleading thing.

Mr. McNeill—Let it be set aside. That is all we want.

The Chief Justice—If there is any difference in the Ice Company's products the other side may legitimately call for them, and any difference between them can be explained by the manager.

Mr. Slade—As your Lordship pleases. I thought it was not right to allow them without words to take a tiny piece of ice out of 100 tons which is the worst of the whole lot. Now that it is before your Lordships and cleared up I have no objection.

The Chief Justice—They would be entitled to get it in this way. The manager would be asked—Is the ice always of that quality? He would say "No."

Mr. Slade—We cannot bring a whole plate of ice here. It is too heavy. It weighs a ton. The only fair way to judge the ice is to look at it in the block. I would suggest that the Court view it.

The Chief Justice—That will suit the other side, I suppose?

Mr. McNeill—Yes. It will be more satisfactory to see the ice of the Milling Company as well.

Mr. Slade—Yes.

Mr. McNeill—They are both on the same premises.

The Chief Justice—We will arrange to go some time to-day.

The question of privilege attaching to letters written by Arnhold, Karberg and Company to their other branches was then discussed, after which evidence was called.

Mr. H. F. Chard said he was a partner in A. H. Rennie and Co., the General Managers of the Hongkong Milling Co. He was not a partner when the negotiations were in progress with Arnhold, Karberg and Co. for the purchase of the ice plant. He was assistant manager of the Milling Company then and became partner later. After the death of Mr. Rennie in April last year the Milling Company

went into liquidation, witness being appointed official liquidator, a position which he held from April till September of last year, when he was succeeded by Mr. Percy Smith. Witness saw the correspondence which passed between the Milling Company and Arnhold, Karberg and Co., but what passed verbally between Mr. Rennie and Mr. Arndt he did not know. The ice plant was erected by a man sent out from Germany. This man supervised the erection and had coolies under him. At the beginning of the work he had another European over him. Witness was informed on the 4th June that the plant was ready. Witness was over at the milling premises practically every day at that time. It was arranged that the Milling Company should retain the man who erected the plant (Mr. Beyer) for two months after the plant had been erected for the purpose of instructing the others.

From your own observation can you say the plant was in running order before the 6th June?—I saw the plant running before the 4th June.

Working properly?—I can't say.

It was making ice?—It was making ice, but whether it was fully complete and making the best ice possible I can't say.

From any information received from Mr. Beyer can you say whether the plant was making ice properly before the 4th June?

Mr. McNeill objected on the ground that Beyer was the agent of the German firm with whom Arnhold, Karberg and Co. had a contract for the supply of the plant, and he was not the agent of Arnhold, Karberg and Co.

The Chief Justice thought that Arnhold, Karberg having asked the German firm to erect the plant the men sent out by the latter for that purpose must be considered servants of Arnhold, Karberg and Co., and their acts which included words became evidence.

The Puisne Judge concurred.

Witness stated that Beyer told him before the trial that the plant was ready. An accident, however, happened on the 6th June, necessitating heavy repairs, and the test was not recommenced until June 18th. The plant was worked by a Diesel engine. Mr. Beyer told him the output was up to requirement. A day or two afterwards, when the ice plant was working splendidly and turning out the best ice of which it was capable, witness arranged with Arnhold, Karberg & Co. to take out representatives of the Ice Company, the Chartered Bank, and a director of the Milling Company to be present at the testing of the quality of the ice. Prior to that he had pointed out to Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co. that they should be satisfied the plant was working at its best before the ice was formally inspected. Mr. Arndt said he was satisfied, and it was agreed to have the comparison of quality made on the 23rd June. On that day Mr. C. H. Ross, of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., Sir Paul Chater, a director of the Milling Company, Mr. Gibson, of the Chartered Bank, Mr. Arndt, of Arnhold, Karberg and Co., and witness went out to Junk Bay. Mr. Haxton, Manager of the Ice Company, came out later with some blocks of ice. The party went into the ice room, and Mr. Beyer took from the cans some newly-made ice, which was shown to the gentlemen present alongside of the block of ice brought out by Mr. Haxton. Nothing material was said then. On the 24th June a letter was received from Messrs. Jardine, Matheson stating that the ice was not up to the standard required, and thereupon the Milling Company declined to take over the plant, witness in his letter to Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg stating that they would be held responsible for all damage on account of the plant failing to come up to the warranty. There was no difficulty placed in the way of Arnhold, Karberg carrying out another test, and Mr. Beyer remained at Junk Bay until July 15th.

The other side have alleged that by reason of the company being in liquidation and by reason of the mortgage to the Chartered Bank, you were not in a position to run the plant if the ice had been satisfactory? That is not so. The Bank was anxious that we should run it. It was a very important asset.

Cross-examined—The Bank wished to carry on the ice plant in order to fulfil the contract with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., but when the latter refused to take the ice they

deemed it would not be profitable to attempt to push their inferior ice in competition with the Hongkong Ice Company.

Am I rightly instructed that the Chartered Bank were to finance the working of the mill until the existing stocks of wheat had been milled?—That is so.

Were the stocks milled before the inspection?

Yes, June 7th.

After the inspection and after the refusal did you take any and what steps to get Arnhold, Karberg & Co. to improve the production of ice?—I reported what had happened and asked what they proposed to do. I went on asking up to the time I resigned and passed the inquiry on to them. It was up to them. I could do nothing.

They said they were waiting advices from Berlin?—Yes.

The plant had been paid for?—Yes.

Witness added that he did not attempt to press Jardine, Matheson & Co. to take the ice, because he was convinced that the ice was inferior to that of the Ice Company's. He believed that the Milling Company had grounds for claiming substantial damages. Any ice sold would, of course, have gone to the liquidation of the damages. They had some ice the outcome of a week's run, which could have been sold. Mr. Rennie discussed the purchase of the ice plant with witness.

Was Mr. Rennie in the habit of consulting you?—I would hardly say consulting.

You were the principal officials?—Yes, Mr. Rennie did not consult me. He usually told me what he had done. (Laughter.)

Did you ever hear him speak of the difference between can ice and plate ice?—No. Personally, I did not know there were such differences.

Mr. McNeill—Neither did I.

The hearing was adjourned till Monday.

THE "TAMAR" IN DOCK.

It was noticed on Aug. 1 that there was quite a blank in the harbour. The *Tamar* had been removed from her moorings and taken to the Kowloon Docks to undergo a necessary overhaul. She will be in dock, it is expected, for five days. It is several years since she docked before.

An interesting feature of her removal was that she was followed by a shoal of fish families which had lived near her and enjoyed the fare which came overboard. The fish followed the *Tamar* to Hung Hom, where the shutting of the dock gates left them an easy catch for those on the lookout.

OPIUM SELLER'S SCARE.

On Sunday the keeper of an opium divan dashed into the Central Police Station and in a few minutes had told Inspector Fenton three different stories of a robbery with violence which he alleged had occurred in his divan. From all that he had been told the inspector on duty gathered that six men had presented themselves at the divan, and while one had purchased an amount of opium the rest had departed with \$27 which they had extracted from the till. Detective-Sergeant Appleton was despatched to make inquiries, and that officer discovered that nothing more than a free fight had taken place in the divan, and that the participants had rapidly made themselves scarce.

BIG OPIUM SEIZURE AT MANILA.

A big opium-seizure has been made in Manila. No less than 450 kilos of opium, valued at P. 14,000, were found in a boiler which had been taken over from Hongkong for alterations. The Hongkong police apparently got to learn of this attempt to smuggle the opium and cabled to Manila, but the Manila customs were searching five days before they discovered it. In fact it was not the custom house officers but the employees of the Taylor machine works who made the discovery. By way of preparing for the drilling of larger holes in the boiler, they unscrewed a plug in one of the columns and there they found it.

COMMERCIAL

IMPORTS:—

RICE

SAIGON.—Messrs. Wm. G. Hale & Co. in their latest circular dated Saigon 23rd July, report:—Our last circular was issued on the 25th ultimo and the latest postal advices received since are as follows:—Hongkong 20th instant; Yokohama 9th instant; Manila 16th instant; Java 16th inst.; Singapore 19th inst. and London 25th ult.

We quote for August to September delivery.

No. 2 White sifted (<i>trié</i>) steam milled round	.....	*
No. 2 White unsifted (<i>ordinaire</i>) steam milled (round)	.....	\$3.58
5 % Cargo steam milled round	...	3.24
10 % Cargo steam milled round	...	3.18
20 % Cargo steam milled round	...	3.08

* Prices according to terms and conditions.

The following is a statement of this year's Exports of White Rice, Cargo Rice and Paddy:—

Destination.	Total pec.
Hongkong	57,233
Manila	14,790
Ilo-ilo	3,053
Cebu	20,945
Japan	21,689
Singapore	28,246
Batavia	20,856
Tjilapjap	.....
Samarang	1,215
Sourabaya	31,933
India	4,062
Ceylon	812
Madagascar	30
Réunion	11,895
Mauritius	12,202
Egypt	18,486
Australia	1,232
Europe	137,646
Total	396,325
Same period of last year	492,871

HONGKONG, 6th August:—There has been changes in the quotation of the market since last report.

Saigon, Ordinary	.....	\$4.90	to	\$4.95
" Round, Good quality	.....	4.90	to	4.95
" Long	.....	5.00	to	5.05
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	.....	5.50	to	5.10
" Garden, " No. 1	.....	5.00	to	5.05
" White	.....	5.15	to	5.20
" Fine Cargo	.....	5.20	to	5.25

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, Aug. 5th.—Since the 22nd ulto, the movements in the various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa	Patna	Benares	Persian
Stocks on the 22nd July, 1909	2,272	2,246	798	447
July 15th Imports per	Katsang	205	150	—
" 30th " "	Katsang	225	155	—
August 4th " "	Caledonia	10	65	11
	2,282	2,741	1,114	471
Less Exports to Shanghai	—	165	50	—
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight	159	609	198	29

Estimated Stocks this day .. 2,123 1,967 866 442

B-nga!—The market ruled fairly active during the fortnight as deliveries have continued on a satisfactory scale. Before the "Sale" on the 3rd inst, closing quotations were 4950, for Patna and \$985,- for Benares, owing however to the high prices realized at the "Sale" rates spurted about \$30/4, but only a nominal business has resulted and the market is unsettled at the close.

Malwa.—There has been more activity in the demand. Quotations are:—2 years \$1,135/55,- 3 years \$1,170/1,200,- 4/5 years \$1,150,-

Persian.—We quote superior drug at \$1,070,-

HONGKONG, August 5th.

Quotations are:—

Malwa New	.....	\$1,135/1,160	per picul.
Malwa Old	.....	\$1,170/1,200	do.
Malwa Older	.....	\$1,210/1,250	do.
Malwa Very Old	.....	\$1,260/1,300	do.
Persian Fine Quality	.....	\$1,080/1,100	do.
Persian Extra Fine	.....	\$950/1,000	do.
Patna New	.....	\$970	per chest.
Patna Old	.....	\$—	do.
Benares New	.....	\$990	do.
Benares Old	.....	\$990	do.

COAL.

HONGKONG, August, 6th.—The arrivals of coal since the 10th inst. amounted to 27,700 tons of Japanese, 3,000 tons Hongay and 3,300 Chinwang-tai. The coal expected is 33,918 tons Japanese, 4,300 tons Hongay, 5,000 Wales and 9,900 tons North China. Quotations according to Messrs Hughes and Hough's circular are as follows:—Cardiff.....\$21.0 to 22.50 ex-godown, nominal. Australian...\$10.50 to 12.50 ex-godown, nominal. Yubari Lump...\$12.00 Nominal. Muki Lump...\$10.50 to 11.00 ex-ship, nominal. Moji Lump.....\$7.75 to \$9.50 ex-ship, steady. Moji Unscreened \$6.00 to \$8.00 ex-ship, steady. Akaike Lump...\$8.75 to \$9.00 ex-ship, steady. Labuan Lump...\$9.00 ex-ship sellers.

JAPANESE MARKETS.

Yokohama, July 15th, 1909.—Cotton Piece Goods.—A sharp rise in Manchester has been hampering forward orders, and until confidence in its maintenance is assured no great amount of business can be expected. Woollen and Woollen Mixtures. As usual at this time of year, orders for Spring goods are being placed, but there is nothing else of particular interest to record. Raw Cotton.—Owing to the considerable rise in values in America, business is practically at a standstill. Rice.—There is nothing fresh to report regarding this market, Saigon prices still ruling higher than local ideas. There are practically no purchases at road for import to this market. Metals.—There is a small miscellaneous business passing, but nothing in the main lines such as Basic Steel Bars. The Government Steel Works are reported to have sold Basic Steel Bars at the equivalent of 7/2½ or 7/3 per picul. Window Glass.—The market is dull, showing a slight downward tendency. Very few deliveries are being made and no improvement is expected until September. Sugar.—There have been no transactions in imported Sugars, and no auctions held by the Japan Refinery. Flour.—There have been no importations owing to the extremely high prices asked by producers. Wheat.—So far, no quotations for new crop have been received and business in consequence is entirely absent.

Kobe, 15th July.—Cotton.—American.—Quotations have been on a steady rise since our last report. This is due to the wet season which is being experienced over the Cotton districts, combined with official crop report given at 74.6, being much below the figure generally anticipated. Latest quotation on forward Middling is Y. 41.40. "Spot" is minimal at Y. 38.50. Indian.—In view of the scarcity of stocks in the market, and in sympathy with high rates ruling for American Cotton, prices have been maintained with upward tendency in consequence of which no business of importance has transpired. "Spot" is likewise on a rise, but owing to small stocks business has been very restricted. Broach is quoted at Y. 31.50; Akola at Y. 30.00; Bengal at Y. 29.50. Chinese.—It is reported that the new crop has suffered some damage by reason of continued wet weather. Stocks in the home market are small. These facts combined with high prices of American Cotton, have caused prices to advance. Business has been small. Prices are: "Best" Y. 30.00; "Common" Y. 28.50. Shirtings.—In sympathy with Manchester, values here showed steady improvement, but clearances are not as satisfactory as expected. The severe advance in Cotton stands in the way of any business of importance for forward arrival. Cotton Goods and Fancies.—Market generally quiet, though prices are firmer in sympathy with home rates. A few orders for forward delivery are recorded, but latterly any general buying has been prevented by the substantial advance that has taken place in Cotton. Worsteds and Woollens.—Market quiet. Metals.—Dull. Rice.—No change since last report, market continues weak.

SUGAR.

Kobe, 15th July, 1909.

Sugar.—Cane.—Raw.—Java.—In spite of higher prices ruling in home market, local market is stationary. Muscovados Basis 96 per cent. Polarization colour 12½ average is quoted at Y. 5.80 per picul ex ship. Formosa.—Market shows a slight improvement. Osaka Refined.—At the auction held by the Trust Sales Office on the 13th instant, 3,500 Bags were disposed of at unchanged prices with the exception of 500 Bags which were sold at 35 Sen higher and 500 Bags at 50 Sen lower. In addition to above sale, 1,000 Bags Yokohama and 1,000 Bags Kobe manufacture were sold.

FOOCHOW IMPORTS.

YARN.—Since 1st June, 1909:—

As per last circular	.....	3,806.40	piculs
During the week	.....	711.00	"
Total		4,517.40	"

KEROSENE.—Since 1st June, 1909:—

As per last circular		190,985	gallons
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FLOUR.—Since 1st June, 1909:—

As per last circular		43,644	bags
During the week		5,740	"
Total	.....	49,384	"

OPIUM.—Since 1st June, 1909:—

As per last circular	.....	225	chests
During the week	.....	53½	"
Total	.....	278½	"

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co. in their Piece Good Report, dated Shanghai 30th July, 1909, state:—There is no change to report in our market, the business doing being simply from hand to mouth. The offers made are for most part three to five per cent. below the ideas of Importers, and that does not mean replacing cost which is considerably more. There seems to be a lull in the enquiry from all of our dependencies, which in the case of Hankow is quite easily accounted for owing to the continued fear of floods, although the water in the River did subside a little from its highest. The danger however, cannot be considered over until well on to the end of August. The larger holders are certainly showing more firmness, seeing the impossibility there is of coming any where near replacing cost. This is to some extent giving a chance to the smaller firms to quit their stocks, but it is quite impossible to find out any particulars. There is some demand for 84-lbs. Grey Shirtings and also White Shirtings and a few small parcels have been placed for prompt clearance. A good deal more could be booked were Importers only as liberal minded now as they used to be, but it is a case of "once bitten twice shy," and holders prefer to keep their goods and run their own chance of an improved market later on. The rains in Manchuria seem to have caused a lull in the demand from that quarter, as there are scarcely any resales even reported, what there are being quite a retail character. The home market seem to be in a helpless state. Manufacturers noting prices it is impossible to touch for staple goods, and yet in spite of all the talk of shutting down the Mills if buyers do not improve on their offers, heavy shipments are still being made. The speculative fluctuations in Cotton are altogether disquieting. A week or two ago 7d. and more was expected, it has since been well inside 6½d. and is now quoted 6.54d. for Mid American in Liverpool. In New York prices have been all over the place. Yesterday 12 18 cents was wired as the quotation for October option, to-day it comes 12 32 cents. This is reflected in the market for Piece Goods. The latest quotation for Pepperell Drills being 12s. 3d., and 10s. 7d. for 3 25 yards Sheeting. Most firms consider it waste of money telegraphing under present circumstances. The last fortnightly telegraphic advice of the shipments from Manchester of Plain Cotton was 19 million yards, so they still continue very excessive. The activity in the Yarn market this week came quite as a surprise, but shows that holders were fully justified in taking up the firm attitude they did in spite of the very discouraging outlook there was. Stocks of Indian Spinnings are fairly heavy now, which may make it difficult to maintain prices during the dull season. Japanese Spinnings are responding very slowly to recent advances in Osaka. Although no details are published it is reported that some fresh sales of Local Yarn have been made, to the extent of 7,500 bales it is said, while some 2,000 bales have been resold. We have gleaned scarcely anything in the way of fresh business, although we know a retail trade is passing. One sale of interest reported to us from first hands is a fair line of 30 yard Pepperell Jeans at Tls. 3.80, white Tls. 3.90 is now wanted. There is still a certain amount of indenting going on in special Fancies, a business that promises to be over done again in the near future. The Auctions this week have not been all joy, the tendency for the staple makes of both Grey and White goods being distinctly easier. Neither have Turkey Reds shown up well, while prices seem to have favoured the buyers in East Black Cotton Italians in the majority of cases at this morning's sale.

YARN.

HONGKONG.—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 6th August, state:—Shortly after the departure of last mail holders felt more inclined to meet dealers, and a slight concession in rates, here and there, has had the effect of again inducing a quiet but steady business, particulars of which are noted below. Most of the buying has been entirely speculative as at the moment there is very little or nothing doing in the country, but the outlook would seem to warrant the action of the speculators. Several mills in Bombay having previously entered into heavy forward contracts without covering their sales, are now finding themselves at a disadvantage in a rising market and the scarcity of the raw material. The situation has latterly become so acute, that a few of them have ceased working entirely, while the others had to adopt short time from the 10th July to 27th September next, working only four days in the week. Under these circumstances, the China markets are not likely to be flooded with yarn at least for some time, and the present position of the trade in the near future is more or less assured and we close with a quiet but strong market. Latest telegrams from Bombay quote Assur Mo. 10s at 6 annas and Victoria No. 20s at 7 annas per pound. Sales of the fortnight aggregate 6,838 bales arrivals amount to 4,031 bales, unsold stock estimated at about 16,000, and sold but uncleared yarn is second hands at about 28,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—Sales of about 350 bales No 10s and 12s at \$115 and \$117 respectively are reported. Japanese Yarn:—Almost neglected. Raw Cotton:—Importations of Indian descriptions have been entirely checked by the scarcity and high prices in the home markets and there is no stock or transaction in Bengal kinds. In China Cotton a parcel of 150 bales (small) Thoongchow is reported to have changed hands at \$35½ leaving about 100 bales in stock. Quotations are Indian \$28 to \$34½ and Chinese \$30 to \$36. Exchange on India has fluctuated slightly and closes to-day at Rs. 131 for T/T and Rs. 131½ for Post. On Shanghai 74½ and on Japan 84½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinning is reported from Shanghai during the three weeks ended the 31st ultimo, viz:—Indian:—The low exchange and firmness of holders have considerably curtailed business and sales of about 5,000 bales are reported at an advance of one Tael per bale. Estimated unsold and uncleared stock about 6,000 bales. Japanese:—Continue quiet but steady and only 400 bales have been reported sold on the basis of Tls. 100 to 109½ for No. 16s and Tls. 110 to 116 for No. 20s. Local:—No business from first hands

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 6th August, 1909

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	pieces	\$1 95	—
7 lbs.	2.30 to	2.55	—
8.4 lbs.	3.05 to	4.20	—
10 lbs.	4.20 to	5.55	—
White Shirtings—5½/56 reed ..	2.80 to	3.65	—
58/60 ..	4.00 to	5.60	—
64/66 ..	6.00 to	7.20	—
Fine ..	7.25 to	9.75	—
Book-folds ..	6.25 to	6.90	—
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ..	0.75 to	2.00	—
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..	2.10 to	2.20	—
7 lbs.	2.25 to	2.35	—
6 lbs. " Mexican ..	—	—	—
7 lbs.	2.70 to	3.95	—
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	3.50 to	4.25	—
Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ } to 14 lbs. }	4.65 to	6.05	—

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to } 6 lbs. piece }	1.82 to	5.10	—
Brocades—Dyed ..	yard	0.11 to	0.15
Chinese—Assorted ..	0.08 to	0.35	—
Velvets—Black, 22 in., ..	0.28 to	0.55	—
Velveteens—18 in., ..	0.24 to	0.28	—
Handkerchiefs—Imitation } Silk per dozen }	0.50 to	5.00	—

WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops ..	yard	0.70 to	2.00
German, ..	2.00	—	—
Habit, Medium & Broad Sloths, ..	1.25 to	3.00	—
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece	7.80 to	9.40	—
Assorted ..	7.90 to	9.40	—
Camlets—Assorted ..	—	—	—

WHEATEN FLOUR—

Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches } Assorted .. }	14.00 to	21.00	—
Orleans—Plain ..	9.00 to	12.00	—
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.60 to	1.50	—

RAW COTTON—

Bombay ..	picul	\$26.00 to	\$31.00
Bengal (New), Rangoon	—	—	—
and Dacca ..	26.00 to	31.00	—
Shanghai and Japanese ..	26.00 to	32.00	—
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	26.00 to	33.00	—

METALS—

Iron—Nail Rod ..	picul	\$ 4.05	—
square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) ..	—	4.30	—
Swedish Bar ..	—	4.15	—
Small Round Rod ..	—	4.50	—
Hoop, ½ to 11/2 in., ..	—	5.60	—
Wire, 16/25 oz., ..	—	9.50	—
Old Wire Rope ..	—	3.00	—
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	—	9.60	—
Australian ..	—	8.90	—
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz. ..	—	40.00	—
Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..	—	40.00	—
Elliot's, 16/28 oz., ..	—	40.00	—
Tin, ..	—	80.00	—
Tin-Plates, ..	box	7.40	—
Steel ..	cwt. case	—	—

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

FOOCHOW JULY, 16TH.—The following settlements have taken place during the week:—Congou—9,100 half-chests. Viz:—469 half-chests Paklum, 4,507 half-chests Padyong, 110 half-chests Yung How, 3,345 Stryque, 27 half-chests Sen Moc, 642 half-chests Dust and Broken Leaf. Souchong—2,974 half-chests. Scented Teas—1,870 boxes. Flowery Pekers—545 chests. Total arrivals, settlements and stocks to date

	½-chests	½-chests	½-chests	chests
	Congou	Souchong	Oolong	Pekoe
Arrivals ..	117,500	70,000	1,000	9,800
Settlements ..	85,800	49,190	—	7,511
Stocks ..	31,700	20,180	1,000	2,286

The Tea Export from commencement of Season to date has been:—

	Total lbs.
Austria ..	332,041
France ..	369,514
Germany ..	1,582,004
Holland ..	592,218
London ..	1,395,145
Russia ..	139,231
Other Countries ..	204,030
South America ..	17,288
Australia & N. Z. ..	176,600
U. S. & Canada ..	329,061
South Africa ..	—
Coastwise Southward ..	23,366
Coastwise Northward ..	265,223
Total Shipments ..	5,934,711

FOOCHOW EXPORTS.

CAMPHOR.—Since 1st June, 1909:—

As per last circular ..	94.00 piculs
CAMPOR OIL.—Since 1st June, 1909:—	—
As per last circular ..	15.24 piculs

JAPANESE MARKET.

YOKOHAMA, 15th July, 1909.

RAW SILK.—Our last report was dated the 19th June, from which date prices gradually advanced until Yen. 935 was paid for No. 1-1½ Shinshui Filatures, full size, on the 23rd idem. A sharp point arrivals from the interior began to come down more freely, with the result that stocks gradually accumulated and prices declined slowly but steadily. At the close, our market is very quiet and rather weak for coarse sizes, only fine and medium-sized filatures being kept very firm.

WASTE SILK.—Nothing doing. Arrivals of new waste almost nil. Settlements from July 15th, 200 piculs. Stock on July 16th is estimated at 4,000 piculs, viz:—Noshi 1,100 piculs, Kibizzo 2,800 piculs, Pierced Cocoons Sundries 700 piculs. Total 4,600 piculs, Against last year 5,400 piculs.

HABUTAI.

YOKOHAMA, 15th July, 1909.

KANAZAWA.—There has been complete stagnation in business since the commencement of the month, which has not failed to react on the market, prices being extremely weak at the time of going to press. Echizen.—Habutai from this district has remained firm, probably due to the continued increase in the proportion of second choice stamped goods. There has not been much demand from abroad, and business is generally quiet. Kawamata.—In sympathy with the other markets a slight decline is noticeable, but there is nothing of importance to chronicle.

COPPER.

Kobe, 15th July, 1909.

Copper.—Market dull. Present home values do not induce sellers to dispose of their stocks. Fish Oil.—Market firmer. Rice.—Weak. Cotton Yarn.—Quotations show little change as at present prohibitive level there are no buyers. Exports are further handicapped by the low price of Silver. Vegetable Wax.—Slightly firmer feeling but no business of importance reported. Matting.—Only small business transacted during the fortnight under review at slightly advanced prices. Local stocks are small due to lack of arrivals from the weaving districts, where holders demand prohibitive figures. Straw Braid & Chip Braid.—Practically no change to report.

CAMPOR.

HONGKONG 6th August.—The above market is at a standstill, and prices remain as last quoted.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 6th August, 1909.—The market generally has ruled very dull; a dullness only being relieved by a flutter in Rubbers, in which a fair business has been put through at advancing rates, and in which a speculative demand exists at the close, somewhat to the detriment of our local stocks. Exchange on London T/T, closes at 1/8 13/16, and on Shanghai at 74½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have continued in demand and the rate has further advanced to \$1,020 after sales during the week at 1,015 and \$1,020. The London rate has advanced to £94, and Shanghai quotes \$1,040 at ex. 73. Nationals continue in demand at 57 without inducing sellers to come forward.

MARINE INSURANCE.—With an unsatisfied demand for Unions the market has ruled very firm, and after small sales at 835 and 840 closes steady at the latter rate. Cantons have been placed at 195, and more shares are obtainable. North Chinas are enquired for at 120, but we have heard of no further sales.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have changed hands at 345 and close steady at that rate. Chinas have declined and after sales close with sellers at 115.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at 33 and close with a further demand. Indos remain a dead letter, Shells have dropped to 70½ but close with buyers at that rate. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars changed hands in the early part of the week at 141½ and 142, and at the close shares are obtainable at the latter rate. Luzons in the early part of the week were placed at 17 and 17½ but close firmer with sellers and buyers at 18, and it is probable that a higher rate than the last could be obtained.

MINING.—Rubbers continue neglected and weak and we have no business to report. Chinese Engineerings have improved in the North to 18½ with buyers. Langkats have slightly improved in the North, and after sales at 1000 cash and at 1025, and 1040 for December close rather weaker at 995 cash.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue quiet, and we have only small sales to report at 62 Kowloon Wharfs ruled quiet in the early part of the week, but at time of closing a sudden demand at 59 has cropped up and with very few shares obtainable the market closes firm with an upward tendency. Shanghai Docks after ruling steady at 80, have declined to 78½, Hongkew Wharf close at 148 in the North.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have weakened a little and several small sales have taken place at 106 cum, and at 102½ ex the div of \$3½ paid on the 3rd inst. At time of closing buyers at the latter rate rule the market. West Point's have found buyers at 44 ex the div of \$2 paid on the 3rd inst. Hongkong Hotel have improved to 74 and 44 for old and new shares respectively without business. Humphreys close with sales at 9½.

COTTON MILLS.—We have no changes or business to report under this heading.

RUBBERS.—A fair business has been done under this heading from which we report the

chief items. Castlefields, 17/6 paid, at 35/ to 40/ premium closing standing at 41/ premium, Rajahs at \$30 Straits currency. Linggis at 23/6, Golconda at 42/6, Sh. l. f. f. from 27/ to 29/, Kurunings at 3/6 and 4/ prem' and Singapore and Johore at \$300 Straits currency, Balgownies have been in demand and have risen considerably, and after sales at 44 (Straits currency) are unobtainable under \$51 (S.C.) Sponges with small sales at 23/6 close quiet at that rate.

MISCELLANEOUS—With the exceptions of small sales of Dairy Farms at 16 1/2, Cements at 88 and 8.70, team Laundries at 5 1/2 and Union Water Boats at 11 we have no business to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:—

STOCKS	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$1,020, buyers
National B. of China	26	\$57, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12/6d.	\$104, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$13 1/2
China Light & P. Co.	\$1	\$6.70, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9.00
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo Cotton S. & W.	Tls. 50	Tls. 134 1/2
Hongkong C. S. Co.	\$10	\$8, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 92
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 110
Soychee	Tls. 50	Tls. 407
Dairy Farm Co.	\$6	\$16 1/2, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$59, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$62, sales
New Amoy Dock	\$11	\$9
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 78 1/2
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 148
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$11, sellers
G. Island Cement Co.	\$10	\$8.80, sellers
Hongkong & C. Geo.	\$10	\$210, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$20 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$74, (old) buy.
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$44, buyers
H'kong Rope M. Co.	\$25	\$195
H'kong Rope M. Co.	\$10	\$24
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$195, sellers
China Fire	20	\$16, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$88, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$345, sales
North China	25	Tls. 120, buyers
Union	\$100	\$835, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$225
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$102 1/2, x.d. sal. & b.
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	9 1/2, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 118
WestPoint Building	\$50	\$44, x.d. sales
Mining—		
S. F. des C. du T'kin	Fr. 250	\$625, buyers
Raub	18/10d.	\$84, sellers
Peak Tramways Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$14 1/2
Philippine Co., Ltd.	\$1	\$1 1/2
Philippine Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$8
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$142 1/2, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$18, buyers
Robinson Piano Co.	\$50	\$50, sellers
Steamship Companies—		
China and Manila	\$25	\$10, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$36
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$33, sales
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	\$42, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	20, seller
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26
South China M. Post	\$25	\$24, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5 1/2, sales
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$12
Wm. Powell, Ltd.	\$7	\$4, seller
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$5, sales
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$8.40, sellers
Weissmann, Ltd.	\$100	\$150, buyers
United Asbestos	\$1	\$12.40, x.d.
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$300
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$11, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

20th July, 1909.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$1,030, buyers
National of China	26	\$59, sales
Russo-Chinese	R187 1/2	Tls. 125
Insurance—		
Union Society C'n	\$100	\$822 1/2, sales
North-China	25	Tls. 116, buyers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$235, buyers
Canton	\$50	\$195, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$345, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$114, buyers
Shipping—		
Indo-China { pref. def. }	25	Tls. 43, sales
Shell Trans. { ord. }	21	70s.
& Trading { pref. }	210	\$9.10.0
S'hai Tug & { ord. }	T50	Tls. 47, sellers
Lighter { pref. }	T50	Tls. 53, sales
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 45, buyers
Kuchien Transport-ation & Tow Boat	T50	Tls. 50, sales
Docks & Wharves—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 80, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$66, sales
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 148
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$58, buyers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 205, sales
Sugar Companies—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 275, sellers
China Refining	\$100	\$138, buyers.
Mining—		
Raub Australian	21	\$8 1/2, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	21	Tls. 18 1/2
Lands—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 118, sales
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$107, sales
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$9 1/2, buyers
Weihaiwei	T20	Tls. 9
China	T50	Tls. 50
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 105, sales
Cotton—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 135, buyers
International	T75	T. 90, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 108, sales
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 407 1/2, sales
H. C. S.W.D.C. Ltd.	T10	Tls. 8 1/2, sellers
Industrial—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 108, sales
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 52 1/2
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 16, sales
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 41, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 35, sellers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$9, sales
Shanghai Cotton	T50	Tls. 75
Maatschappij, & Co., in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 1000
Shanghai - Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 157 1/2, sales
Dominion Rubbers	T6	Tls. 12, buyers
S'hai Waterworks	\$20	Tls. 425
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	\$100	\$75
A. Butler Cement	T50	Tls. 20
Tile Works	T50	Tls. 185, buyers
Kalumpung Rubber	T50	Tls. 275, sales
S. R. Ber Estates	T100	Tls. 18, sales
T. R. & T. Estate Co.	21	Tls. 10
Eastern Fibre	110	Tls. 10
Shanghai Electric Construction	210	\$65.0, sales
Miscellaneous—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$23, sales
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$65
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$8 1/2, buyers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$17, buyers
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$42 1/2
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$27, buyers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$19, sales
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$70, sel. ex div.
Hotel des colonies	T12.50	Tls. 5 1/2
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	Tls. 75, sales
Lane, Crawford & Co.	\$100	\$165
Dunning & Co.	\$50	\$35
S'hai Horse Bazar	T50	Tls. 55, sales
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 64, buyers
China Im. & Ex. Lumber	T100	Tls. 75
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$21
Dallas Horse Repository	T70	Tls. 25
Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs J. P. Bisset & Co., in their Share Report for the week ending 29th July, state:—Owing to the hot weather and the absence of many of the brokers from Shanghai, the market all round has been very quiet, the bulk of business done being very small. The T.T. rate on London yesterday was 2/3 1/2. Banks.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banks. Shares have been in strong demand all the week with buyers at \$1,025, and no sellers at this figure. No business was reported. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas. Business has been done at Tls. 45 for September. Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. A single transaction is reported at Tls. 51 closing with sellers at Tls. 49. Dividends have been declared for the half-year ending June 30, of 3 1/2 per cent on the Preference and 2 per cent on the Ordinary shares. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. On the 23rd sales were effected at Tls. 83 for Sept. The market closed easier with sales for September at Tls. 82. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharves. A fair amount of business has been done in this stock, sales taking place for September at Tls. 150, Tls. 152 1/2, Tls. 149, Tls. 152, Tls. 151, and Tls. 150, closing with sellers for Sept. at Tls. 150 1/2. The only cash transaction was on the 24th at Tls. 150. Sugars and Mining.—No business has been reported under these headings. Lands. Very few transactions. The only business being in Anglo-French Lands which changed hands on the 27th at Tls. 105. There are sellers of Shanghai Lands at Tls. 118. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks. Cash sales of Ewo took place on the 23rd and 27th at Tls. 133 and Tls. 135 respectively, and for September a fair amount of business has been done at Tls. 137 1/2, Laou Kung Mow. The only business reported was on the 27th, sales for September at Tls. 112. International Cottons. On the 27th sales at Tls. 92 for September. In Rubber Stocks. Shares have been generally in demand and a good business has been effected. Tebonga. Shares changed hands during the week for cash at Tls. 18 1/2-Tls. 20, closing with sellers at Tls. 18. Domains have been steady with sales at Tls. 12, 12 1/2 and 12, closing with with sellers at Tls. 12 1/2. Senawang. Few shares have been offering, cash sales taking place at Tls. 275, and for September at Tls. 280. No business has been done in Kalumpung. Shanghai Sumatra. Since our last Report the market has somewhat improved and sales are reported for September at Tls. 145, 143 1/2, 147 1/2 and Tls. 160. The only cash sales was on the 23rd at Tls. 140. Maatschappij & Co. in Langkat. The market has been very quiet with very little doing. Sales were reported on the 26th for September at Tls. 1,025 and Tls. 1,022 1/2, and on the 29th at Tls. 1,022 1/2. Cash transactions took place on the 28th at Tls. 990. Miscellaneous.—Very little business has been done under this heading. Shanghai Telephones found buyers at Tls. 64. In Stores no business is reported. Astor House Hotel Co. Sales took place at \$19. Debentures. — A 7 per cent Debentures changed hands at Tls. 105.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, August 6th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8 1/2
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	219
Credits 4 months' sight	222 1/2
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	178
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	43 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	131
Bank, on demand	131 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	131
Bank on demand	131 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	74 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	75 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	84 1/2
ON MANILA.—On demand	85 1/2
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	74 1/2
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	104 1/2
ON HAIKONG.—On demand	9 1/2 p.m.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	9 p.m.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	87 1/2
FOREIGN, Bank's Buying Rate	\$11.45
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	\$59.60
SILVER per oz	23 1/2

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 6th August.—Freights continue about the same as last reported. From Saigon to this, 11 cents for small lots; to Philippines, 21 to 24 cents according to size; to North Coast Java, 22 cents per picul; to Japan, 23 cents. From North Coast Java to Hongkong, 23 cents last. From Newchwang to Canton, 24 cents last. Coal freights slightly weaker. From South Japan Coal port to Hongkong, \$2 43 to 2 50; to Hongkong, \$2.00 last; to Singapore, \$2 75.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

July:—

ARRIVALS.

- 29, Jura, British str., for Barry.
- 29, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 29, Signal, German str., from Hoihow.
- 30, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 30, Dagny, Norwegian str., from Tourane.
- 30, Eclipse, British 4-m. bq., from New York.
- 30, Eskdale, British str., from Karatsu.
- 30, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 30, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 30, Siam, Danish str., from Hankow.
- 31, Germania, German str., from Hongkong.
- 31, Hainun, British str., from Swatow.
- 31, Keong Wai, German str., from Bangkok.
- 31, Locksun, German str., from Bangkok.
- 31, Nord, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
- 31, Selja, Norwegian str., from Portland.

August:—

- 1, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
- 1, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 1, Hongwan I, British str., from Rangoon.
- 1, Indien, Danish str., from Antwerp.
- 1, King George, Br. str., from New York.
- 1, Proteus Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
- 1, Victoria, Swedish str., from Haiphong.
- 2, Caledonien, French str., from Shanghai.
- 2, Chinhua, British str., from Shanghai.
- 2, Chinkiang, British str., from Chefoo.
- 2, Foochow, British str., from Cebu.
- 2, Kwangtai, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 2, Mandal, Nor. str., from Tsingtau.
- 2, Nikko Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
- 2, Segovia, German str., from Hankow.
- 2, Tean, British str., from Manila.
- 2, Tonkin, French str., from Marseilles.
- 3, Aldenham, British str., from Melbourne.
- 3, Bushu Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 3, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 3, Kalgan, British str., from Newchwang.
- 3, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 3, M. Jebsen, German str., from Hoihow.
- 3, Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
- 3, Sorsogon, American str., from Iloilo.
- 3, Taikoson Maru, Jap. str., from Miike.
- 3, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
- 4, Banri Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 4, Bengloe, British str., from London.
- 4, Caledonia, British str., from Bombay.
- 4, Chenan, British str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Daijin Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
- 4, Haitan, British str., from Swatow.
- 4, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 4, Hinsang, British str., from Wakamatsu.
- 4, Nanchwang, British str., from Chefoo.
- 4, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
- 4, Soshu Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
- 4, Vienna, British str., from Newcastle.
- 5, Empress of Japan, Br. str., from Vancouver.
- 5, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from London.
- 5, Isobe Maru, Jap. str., from Mororan.
- 5, Ithaka, German str., from Tsingtau.
- 5, Knivsberg, German str., from Hoihow.
- 5, Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
- 5, Sikh, British str., from Keelung.

July:—

DEPARTURES.

- 30, Atsuta Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
- 30, Benledi, British str., for Singapore.
- 30, Haiyang, British str., for Swatow.
- 30, Kamo Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 30, Moyori Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.
- 30, Ningchow, British str., for Liverpool.
- 30, Patroclus, British str., for Singapore.
- 31, Fitzpatrick, British str., for Keelung.
- 31, Fooshing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 31, Hanoi, French str., for Q. Chow Wan.
- 31, Hsing Ming, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 31, Jura, British str., for Moji.
- 31, Kutsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 31, Manchuria, American str., for Keelung.

31, Siam, Danish str., for Singapore.

31, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.

31, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.

August:—

- 1, Benvorlich, British str., for Saigon.
- 1, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 1, Huichow, British str., for Swatow.
- 1, Kiang Ping, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
- 1, Linan, British str., for Shanghai.
- 1, Loksang, British str., for Swatow.
- 1, Loosok, German str., for Swatow.
- 1, Marie, German str., for Saigon.
- 1, Namsang, British str., for Singapore.
- 1, Pheumpenh, British str., for Saigon.
- 2, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.
- 2, Hupeh, British str., for Tsingtau.
- 2, Minnesota, American str., for Keelung.
- 2, Tonkin, French str., for Shanghai.
- 3, Caledonien, French str., for Europe, &c.
- 3, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., for Saigon.
- 3, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
- 3, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 3, Hongwan I, British str., for Amoy.
- 3, Kaifong, British str., for Cebu.
- 3, Kwangse, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Amara, British str., for Saigon.
- 4, Caledonia, British str., for Shanghai.
- 4, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 4, Indien, Danish str., for Shanghai.
- 4, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
- 4, Michael Jebsen, Ger. str., for Amoy.
- 4, Nikko Maru, Japanese str., for Nagasaki.
- 4, Sanuki Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 4, Segovia, German str., for Seattle.
- 4, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 5, Chinhua, British str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Chipshing, British str., for Swatow.
- 5, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 5, Locksun, German str., for Swatow.
- 5, Proteus, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
- 5, Quarta, German str., for Batavia.
- 5, Taikoson Maru, Jap. str., for Sourabaya.
- 5, Victoria, Swedish str., for Haiphong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Indien*, from Antwerp, Mr. Andersen.
- Per *Chinhua*, from Shanghai, Mr. E. E. Gott.
- Per *Chowtai*, from Bangkok, Mr. E. T. Gibello.
- Per *Kwangtai*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Abraham and Mrs. Pitcairn.
- Per *Haitan*, from Swatow, Miss E. MacGowan and Mr. Saluzzi.
- Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Miss Bullock, Messrs. Guy and Gamin.
- Per *Caledonien*, from Yokohama, Mrs. Goyel, 2 baby and amah, Mrs. Hawey, Mrs. Clara, Mrs. Rastini, Miss Jones and Sisters Philippe.
- Per *Haimun*, from Swatow, Messrs P. Lester, E. W. Carpenter, L. Rees, O. P. Rosario, C. M. Alves, W. Pringle, R. W. Warhurst, A. Thompson and J. A. Motto.
- Per *Sanuki Maru*, from Japan, &c., Miss P. McDonald, Lt.-Col. J. M. Reid, Messrs H. M. Perry, H. J. Dickinson, Enos Seth, H. B. Kingman, D. McNeill and A. Caben.
- Per *Tean*, from Manila, Dr. and Mrs. Cox, child and infant, Mrs. Leclerc and infant, Mrs. McLeod, Misses Craig and Arnold, Messrs Olsen, Arey, McNellis, De Fer, Abbott, Laymarr and Fernandez.
- Per *Aldenham*, from Sydney, &c., Mrs. Winfield, Mrs. Morgan, Miss Higford, Messrs C. L. Lynde, J. F. Clark, A. Levy, A. Blyton, R. Blyton, T. Lynch, S. Kelly, J. H. Hutchison, W. J. Kertenshaw and Geo. Compire.
- Per *Yawata Maru*, from Japan, &c., Mr and Mrs H. P. Strickler, Mr and Mrs J. B. Bell, Mr and Mrs C. Maxfield and 2 children, Mr and Mrs Coleman, Mrs. Pascol, Dr. W. Sellards, Captain Hutchinson, Messrs J. H. Strickler, C. Hipperton and S. Nicholls.
- Per *Nikko Maru*, from Melbourne, &c., Miss McHeever, Colonel Wallace, Colonel Wilder, Messrs C. Hebden, G. P. Watt, R. J. Buck, Wood, J. E. Edwards, F. H. Forde, J. Brawn, H. C. Smith, A. G. Peter, Gerdillo, Payne, E. Barbe, J. W. White and Carlos Loesin.
- Per *Tonkin*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. Ribeiro; from Port Said, Mr. L. Modai; from Colombo, Messrs Joe, C. Vim, and L. Loyd; from Singapore, Mrs. V. Palmer, Messrs John Bohmann and MacIntyre; from Saigon, Mr and Mrs P. Deydier, Messrs Lapique, Geo. Blacker and boy.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, &c., Mr and Mrs H. T. Richardson, three children and amah, Mrs. S. Mark, Misses S. S. Gardner, M. E. Mitchell and M. Graff, Capt. F. Ragen, Messrs B. P. Dillon, E. W. Morrell, H. J. Jackman, A. Turner, E. R. V. Bruning and valet, J. Wilkinson, R. Mohler, J. E. Elliott and J. E. McPherson.

Per *Hitachi Maru*, from London, &c., for Hongkong, Mrs. A. Bunji, Mrs. D. R. Herrick, Miss P. E. Herrick, Capt. E. T. Bunji, Master F. Bunji, Rev. D. S. Herrick, Messrs William Hoy and A. E. Paine; for Kobe, Mrs. S. Hirota, Messrs K. Iino, H. Kanazawa and S. Tsuyuki; for Yokohama, Mrs. S. Hayashi, Misses U. Hayashi and S. Hayashi, Master K. Hayashi, Master H. Hayashi and Mr. T. Hayashi.

Per *Caledonia*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. K. E. Greig; from Gibraltar, Mr. L. Xavier; from Marseilles, L. R. Macphail; from Port Said, Mr. W. Meham; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs Mores, and Mr O. J. Barnes; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs H. Rawlins and M. W. H. Thomas; from Bombay, Mr Whitworth; from Singapore, Mr and Mrs W. Ruxton and infant; for Yokohama, from London, Mr J. S. Mann; from Marseilles, Mr W. Sparkes.

DEPARTED.

Per *Zafiro*, for Manila, Mrs. C. M. Anderson, Capt. J. N. Coffin, Messrs M. W. Creagh, J. Blum, A. L. Rae, G. Moffatt, H. Barrenengoa, A. Levie, W. L. Blackett, F. Pastana, M. S. Agustin, Kumiyama, L. Dionicio, J. Clena, Z. Custodis and A. J. B. Burt.

Per *Sanuki Maru*, for London, Mrs. Winfield, Mrs. C. J. Knight, Dr. H. Fujita, Messrs Robertson, Mayebara, Shimadzu, Ando, W. Gallon, W. Pils, Watt, G. Cunningham, Geo. Lenmon, Fujii, B. Taleefson, Hassamull, A. M. Ross, J. C. Robson, Osman, A. B. Bhedwur, M. Milson, L. Henrichsen, Y. Sensaki and A. Klunhsen.

Per *Tonkin*, for Shanghai, &c., Mr and Mrs Door Lellane, Mr and Mrs James Wright, Mrs. A. Tison, Mrs. Leven, Rev. Fr. Fricket, Rev. P. Gabardi, Capt. H. Hilson, Messrs P. Pezy, Fatta, Aboun, Sieres, Samon, Sarrand, F. Matelsta, M. Brodbeker, Motter, Godeberg, J. Ramenda, Kaheli, J. Whitting, Mohandaz, Keyebam, Maris Bochin, Fabre, H. G. C. Bailey, F. Nalagawa, Kehl, J. L. Gonzales, A. F. Atkins and J. Shenider.

Per *Caledonien*, for Marseilles, &c., Mr and Mrs Froimann, Mrs. J. Rafel, Mrs. Landorn, Family Engel, Messrs M. Zraydon, M. Manusset, Desnard, Verard, Chinore, Soumonlan, Le Clauiff, Keriere, Mobiane, Thomas, Allaman, Magaud, R. Deen, W. Polyvalle, C. Abraham, Carry, Mishita, Kanai, Dicar, Martni, Berisland, Boyer, Le Bird, J. Clark, Phillip, R. Pessio, J. N. de Carralho, M. Venture, B. W. Gaby, M. Marty and Victor Fernand.

Per *Nikko Maru*, for Japan, Mr and Mrs Hood, Mr and Mrs L. Want, Mr and Mrs Colin Campbell, Mr and Mrs Tatcher, Mr and Mrs Wolfe, Mr and Mrs Adams and infant, Mr and Mrs Chas. Elliot, Mrs. K. M. Van Buskirk, Mrs. Want, Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Yamamoto, Mrs. Oxberry, Mrs. Yoshi, Misses R. Chee, Quinan, Bird, Wolfe and C. Kobayashi, Lieut. F. L. Roberts, Hon. Taylor, Major S. S. Jordan, Messrs H. C. Smith, J. Matsukura, Higwan, J. Darley, Campbell, R. Taylor, R. Currie, C. H. Higginbotham, Sudzuki, B. M. Castro, K. Yokouchi, Francisco Frire and Nakamura.

Per *Minnesota*, for Seattle, &c., Mr and Mrs W. M. Wallace, Mr and Mrs J. W. Dorris, Mr and Mrs H. A. Kemp, Mr and Mrs G. B. Hedges and child, Mr and Mrs J. R. Ammerman, Mr and Mrs R. M. Loper, Capt. and Mrs J. D. Leitch, Lieut. and Mrs T. C. Musgrave, Mrs. Pendleton and child, Mrs. N. Mishima, Misses Wallace, Dorothy Annin, Dorothy Leitch, E. Yule, Bertha F. Kilgour, Dorris (2) Julia Gordon Hope, C. H. Ober, W. Johnson, Z. Keenut, H. Heath, H. McCauley, Judge W. Rhode, Dr. S. D. Hopkins, Capt. Baker, Messrs A. Sutherland, R. R. Birch, H. Sleeper, J. W. Quilton, G. S. Lane, A. M. Stevenson, J. M. Sanno, M. Gonzalez and H. Marquiz.

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